

CANTON OBSERVER

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LOCAL CELEBS TO JOIN ON STAGE IN 'SPELLING BEE' COMMUNITY LIFE, B6

New T.J. Maxx store coming to Canton

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

T.J. Maxx, a still-growing department store chain, has chosen Canton for one of its new stores.

The company plans to build a 21,000-square-foot store on Centre Village Shopping Center property, southwest of Ford and Canton Center roads.

"A lot of people have talked about having a T.J. Maxx in Canton," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "I think it's a good thing."

In a show of support, the Canton Township Board of Trustees voted Tuesday to approve a site plan for the new store, which local officials say will be built north of Bailey's Sports Grille. Officials for TJX Cos., which owns

T.J. Maxx and other stores, declined to confirm the Canton store, discuss it or say when it might open.

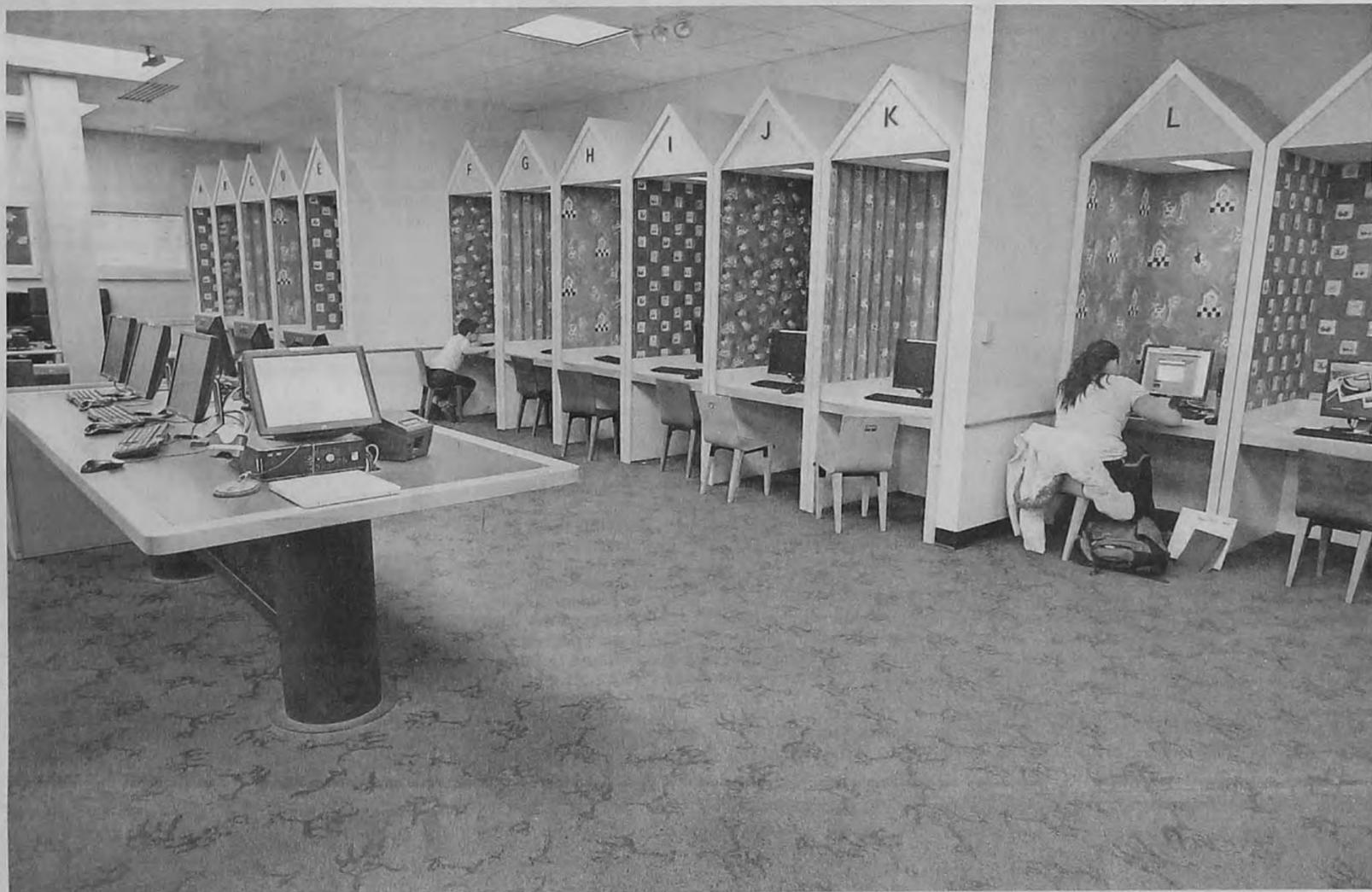
"When opening new stores, we tend to announce our plans when we believe the time is right to do so competitively," TJX public relations supervisor Brittany Welch Farrell wrote by email, in response to questions. "Generally speaking, it is our practice not to an-

nounce store openings until close to an intended opening date."

That said, Canton's site plan calls for a new store to be built in the Centre Village Shopping Center.

TJX, which owns stores such as T.J. Maxx, Marshall's and HomeGoods, had earlier announced it expects to open

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Computers shown here will be relocated to a more central area of the children's area, close to the librarian's desk, to make it easier for librarians to assist patrons.

Children's library closing for three-month makeover

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Work crews will shut down the Canton children's library for a 12-week makeover starting Jan. 4, closing a popular area that last year alone circulated 663,863 materials such as books, games, audio-visual materials and puppets.

That's 43 percent of the Canton Public Library's total circulation.

Library patron Michelle Badea was surprised when she first heard that the 10,569-square-foot children's library would close from early January to early April.

"Oh, no, I think the children's library is very good," Badea said, adding that she often takes daughter Julia, 3, to the play room area.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Library Director Eva Davis holds the renovation plans and shows carpet samples for the project.

She became more receptive to the changes after learning that the \$848,300 facelift is expected to improve services and position the children's area for years to come.

"I think that will be good," she said.

The latest makeover marks the third phase of renovations that already have led to nearly \$900,000 in improvements to a facility that first opened its doors in 1988.

Laurie Golden, the library's community relations department head, said library employees are arranging temporarily to move some children's materials to the east end of the building, where they will remain accessible during the renovations. Among those are books and other resources for

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The Green Mustaches named robotics regional champs

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

The Green Mustaches. Sounds like a group of modern-day super heroes, right? Well, maybe they are. After all, the team of 10- and 11-year-olds just walked away as the winner of the Michigan Regional Lego First Lego League championship.

By the way, this is only the second year the Green Mustaches have competed.

In the regional contest Nov. 21 in Monroe, the Green Mustaches earned the highest scores possible in all categories.

As parent coach and longtime Canton resident Vinay Bhakkad said, "They are good at all things."

The team includes sixth-graders

Riya Bhakkad, Siya Modi, Misri Modi and Megan Wu and fifth-graders Vishal Kumaravel, Rohan Parikh, Raj Tiller, Shalin Lakhia, Vidvat Vasudevan and Alex Chang. The students are from Canton, Plymouth and Northville and are in the Plymouth-Canton schools, Achieve Academy and Northville schools. In addition to Bhakkad, parent coaches are Deepak Kumaravel and Ajay Parikh.

The Lego League competition is no easy task. The Green Mustaches had the help, support and encouragement of high school mentors and elder siblings who were part of the Roborockets team that won the Michigan state championship and represented the state of Michigan at the international

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And the winners are: Riya Bhakkad, Siya Modi, Misri Modi, Megan Wu, Vishal Kumaravel, Rohan Parikh, Raj Tiller, Shalin Lakhia, Vidvat Vasudevan and Alex Chang.



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LIBRARY

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Black History Month in February and Women's History Month in March.

Children's programming also will continue, much of it in the library's community room, Golden said.

Library card-carrying patrons who can't find children's materials they need in Canton will be able to use libraries in other communities such as Plymouth, Westland, Livonia, Wayne and Novi, among others, Golden said.

Library Director Eva Davis said all three phases of renovations evolved from a community survey and conversations library employees have had with patrons.

"With the upcoming renovations to the children's library, I am confident that we are well-positioned to meet the needs of our patrons, particularly families, a

group who uses our library the most," she said, adding later, "Our people work directly with these families on a daily basis and I am impressed with how the children's librarians made sure that the renovation would serve them well for the next several decades."

Golden provided a snapshot of improvements:

» All computers will be consolidated in one central location, rather than scattered among different areas of the children's library.

"That's going to be the biggest difference patrons will see off the bat," Golden said.

» More electrical outlets will be installed to give children and their parents more places to plug in their laptops and other electronic devices.

» A "twens" area for older children will be renovated to usher in better study areas.

» The help desk will be moved to a more central location, closer to computers to assist pa-



The "tween" area will gain new space for group projects and individual studies.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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trons who need help.
» Collections will be better grouped together to improve convenience.
» The play area will be renovated, with a wall taken down to make it flow better with the children's library design.
» Restrooms will be renovated and a drinking fountain added so pa-

trons don't have to leave the children's library for water.

» Aging furniture and flooring, mostly carpeting, will be replaced.

» The so-called Purple Room, with a \$15,000 donation from Friends of the Canton Public Library, will be improved and audio-visual capa-

bilities added to it.

» An early literacy station with computers for children will be installed. The library also will have more iPads for use.

» A self-service area will allow patrons to check out their own materials and use a printer, copier and scanner.

» Patrons who have a fondness for a fish tank and a fake tree near a skylight need not worry — those amenities are not being removed.

For more information, go to www.cantonpl.org.

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MAXX

Continued from Page A1

hundreds more stores long-term, including about 70 new T.J. Maxx and Marshall's locations this year, alone, in the United States.

TJX, based in Framingham, Mass., has continued to grow its stores despite a competitive retail market that stalled growth for some companies.

Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said he believes T.J.

Maxx will be a good fit for Canton, a still-growing community with residents who support a strong retail base.

"It definitely hits the Canton demographic," Faas said.

TJX bills itself as a global, off-price value company with more than 3,300 stores. It already has stores in metro Detroit communities such as Livonia, Ann Arbor and Novi.

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T.J. Maxx, shown here in another community, is building a new store in Canton.

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Comics-to-clothing holiday shopping season arrives

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Batman, the *Star Wars* crew, Wonder Woman and other superheroes congregated Friday in one spot in Canton as their fans fawned over them. Godzilla and comic book icon Archie even made an appearance.

They all took their place among action figures, comic books and graphic novels inside Comic City, a place that sells thousands of items for collectors, including merchandise from *The Walking Dead*.

"*Star Wars* is huge right now," manager Justin Vahosky said, as fans await the upcoming *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* movie debut in mid-December.

Marvel Comics, DC Comics and smaller, independent brands could be found inside the store. Nicole Ferrebee of Livonia spotted a gift for her husband Brian, but she couldn't buy it as a surprise because he and their 17-year-old son Mike were with her.

Aside from Black Friday, Vahosky said more deals loomed 5-8 p.m. Dec. 6, when patrons can get discounts for bringing in canned food to help the Gleaners Community Food Bank, which serves metro Detroit.

In downtown Plymouth, an early stream of Christmas shoppers is indicating a busy season at Genuine Toy Co., a toy and game store.

"I'm a little surprised. We're seeing them earlier than we ever have," said Elle Dare, who owns the business on Forest Avenue with husband Charles.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Store manager Justin Vahosky hangs signs in the front door of Comic City in Canton, advertising Black Friday specials.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Katie Price, manager at Plato's Closet in Canton, folds clothes on a busy shopping day.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Nicole Ferrebee looks for items related to Godzilla and zombies. "Everybody loves 'The Walking Dead,'" Ferrebee said. She is from Livonia.

Genuine Toy is already sold out of some items, Dare said.

"It's not like totally crazy, but steady," she added.

Especially popular this year in toys, Dare said, are PlushCraft kits, which are fabrics-by-numbers craft-making sets, and Metal Earth

models, three-dimensional models made with laser-cut steel pieces rather than plastic components.

Board games and jig-

saw puzzles, Dare said, are also big Christmas sellers at Genuine Toy, as many focus on making the holidays a time for family and for putting

down electronic devices and interacting with others in person.

"It's more common. People are getting back into it," she said.

At Plato's Closet in Canton, a teen clothing resale shop, manager Katie Price folded a sweater for one customer, as others milled about the store, looking for discount prices on holiday gifts.

"We do pretty well for the holidays and our Black Friday sales also help us," she said.

Price cited the Victoria's Secret Pink line and designer jeans brands such as True Religion and Miss Me as popular items in the store.

A few storefronts away on the Ford Road shopping corridor, Jeremy and Katie Brydges of Westland walked from the Kohl's department store in Canton. She carried a vacuum cleaner for her own house, while he was toting a new television for his mother.

Jeremy Brydges estimated the couple would get as much as 50 percent of their Christmas shopping done Friday.

"We have someone to watch the kids," he said, "so that helps."

With the economy improving, some retailers are expecting a rather brisk shopping season. Over at Genuine Toy, Dare said the outlook is good for the next few weeks.

"We think it's going to be pretty busy," she said. "I doubt it will drop off."

Staff Writer Matt Jachman contributed to this story.

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Schrader-Howell will host candle lighting ceremony

Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, located in downtown Plymouth, will host its 25th annual Holi-

day Candlelighting Ceremony at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, at the funeral home, 280 S. Main.

The program will include a holiday reflection given by the Rev. Thomas Belczak and a

message of encouragement by the funeral home's grief counselor, Brigid G. Lynch.

Each family will have the opportunity to light a candle in honor of their loved one.

Refreshments and fellowship to follow. The public is invited.

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Optimist Club announces winners of spelling bee

Bentley Elementary School students recently participated in a spelling bee for grades 3-5, an event sponsored by the Plymouth-Canton Optimist Club.

Students formed teams of three each and had 30 seconds before one of the team members had to spell the word. The words were among those required for students to master this school year.

Joyce Silagy, Optimist Club secretary, said the club provided prizes to the winning teams as follows:

» Third-grade winners, the Fast and Furious team, included Cedric Middleton, Alex Oliver and Lukas Cox.

» Fourth-grade winners, dubbed The Spellers, included Mattia Quagliata, Josh Smith-Bomar and Abhinav Raghu.

» Fifth-grade winners, Cantin's Spellers, were Kavya Keshavamurthy, Muneeb Mahmood and Isabelle Marudo.

Silagy, who pronounced the words, was joined by other Optimist Club participants, including Mindy Sanderson, chair; Jerry Meier, principal; Nicholas Clements, emcee; Pamela Batcho and Jean Corbitt, judges; Noel Hansen, timekeeper; and Betty Leadford and Terri Keski-Hynnilla, greeters.

The club has a partnership with Bentley. The next Bentley event will be an Oratorical Contest in March.

Anyone seeking more information about the club should contact Charles Roebuck, president, at charlesroebuck@hotmail.com.



Winners of the spelling bee were third-graders Cedric Middleton, Alex Oliver, and Lukas Cox; fourth-graders Mattia Quagliata, Josh Smith-Bomar, and Abhinav Raghu, and fifth-graders Kavya Keshavamurthy, Muneeb Mahmood, and Isabelle Marudo. Principal Jerry Meier is shown with the students.

ROBOTICS

Continued from Page A1

championship held in Lego-land, Fla., in 2009. Those students are Ritika Parikh, Ryan Wu, Varun Kumaravel and Sonia Bhakkad.

The Green Mustaches – a name chosen simply because the kids like it – were faced with building a working robot with Legos that within 150 seconds had to accomplish a set of missions to gain maximum points.

Each team designs a robot to move on a mat that is about eight feet by four feet. On the competition field are tasks that the robot must accomplish in two minutes, 30 seconds, Deepak Kumaravel said.

As he described: The robot is designed to do "missions" like clean up (where you have to move animals to safe places on the field and clean up plastic bags), compost (where you start a machine that takes compostable materials and processed them to be re-used in another mission), demolition (where you demolish a building, but you have to recover the valuables) and purchasing decisions (where you can buy toys with less packaging or more and you get penalized for buying the one with more packaging if you do not re-use the package).

"So while the missions are fun, the underlying themes keeps reminding the kids of the overall message related to trash and how to reduce it," Kumaravel said.

The purpose is to stress STEM education. But the students also had to demonstrate the core values of teamwork and cooperation.

"They had to show that they could compete and yet coordinate with their team," Bhakkad said.

And finally, the Green Mustaches had to develop a theme to address a real life problem – reducing the amount of trash and carbon dioxide that ends up in landfills. They had to design an innovative solution to the

problem they selected and, finally, they had to share the problem and solution with others.

On the problem of trash, the Green Mustaches began with a problem statement: "Growing kids quickly outgrow many re-usable items like clothing, sports equipment, shoes, school bags and unknowingly throw away re-usable that end up in landfills, while there are kids that cannot afford and may need those items."

The team then conducted an independent online survey of growing kids and identified that more than 60 percent of kids or their parents do not know somebody directly that may be able to use their re-usable items they have outgrown and hence may trash or sometimes donate to a charity.

"They had to take a real world problem and provide a realistic solution," Bhakkad said.

To that end, the team created an exchange website: www.greenmustaches.com. This is where anyone who has re-usable items for growing kids (limited to five item types) – clothing, sports equipment, school bags, shoes and lunchboxes – can post what they have to offer and somebody who needs them can post as a need.

The team was also able to identify an orphanage which posted its needs on the website and they ran a donation campaign with their sports teams and classes to fulfill its needs.

And the Green Mustaches are very serious about the trash problem and their solution. That's why they are asking the public to go to their website, www.greenmustaches.com and to provide re-usable items for others, rather than putting the items in the garbage, which will end up in a landfill.

"We really would like kids and parents to use the website," Bhakkad said.

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Expectations for the future: Time to work harder

Since the day we were born, we have grown up in a society that relentlessly preached and encouraged a strong foundational belief in the irrational theory, "time is money." No wonder it seems absurd to us to prioritize our precious minutes of relaxation and freedom to sit down, turn on the news and catch up on current events or to devote just a couple of moments of our daily lives to researching controversial political topics of interest to help us develop our own educated standpoints and opinions influenced by knowledge, experience, core values and morals.

Young adults, especially those ages 18-20, have consistently produced the lowest percentage of the overall voter turnout in our country's elections ever since we earned the right to vote in 1971, a statistic which only solidifies the burden of low expectations the American youth has failed to overcome, generation after generation. We constantly ignore our obligation to participate in the democracy our Founding Fathers spilled blood, sweat and quill ink to attain, because we refuse to learn about political affairs that don't provide us with a substantial amount of entertainment value, yet another embarrassing stereotype our generation has habitually grown to accept and embrace.

Living in a country that has such immense political influence and in a world that has been experiencing frequent and extremely violent terrorist attacks for far too long, it is inevitable for all of our country's citizens (that means you, Yank!) to understand the importance of the educated,



Emily Finn
GUEST COLUMNIST

thoughtful and deliberate participation in the upcoming election of the next president of the United States.

To live out the high expectation and tradition of an honest role model and honorable leader of the free world, it is our job as Americans to ensure that whomever is entrusted with these presidential responsibilities is someone who not only has tenacious patriotism, unbreakable love for and dedication to their country, determination to enforce domestic policy to put an end to our rapidly increasing debt, discipline to leave behind a prosperous economic future with a higher standard of living for the vigorous legacy of generations to come and possesses the fearlessness and courageousness required to command the most intimidating, valiant and influential military forces in all of the world's history. A president who is remarkably intelligent and clearly expresses the capability to develop a unifying "game plan" to establish peace and prosperity throughout the Middle East, will undeniably prove to the rest of the world the intensity of the profound influence and strength of political leaders of the United States.

Our president needs to promise that enforcing justice will be our utmost priority, that we will withstand our unconditional devotion to the protection of the innocent and defenseless and that we will forcefully send a powerful

message to any terrorist organization seeking to cause chaos, refuse cooperation, ignite fear at the heart of our homestead and continue to commit sinister and gruesome crimes against the citizens of our country and those of our allies, that we, the American people, will assure they suffer consequences of maximum severity.

Without a firm stance against our enemies, high expectations for our leaders and overwhelming support at the polls and in everyday life, we will cease to create a reputation of a weak, pathetic generation who isn't brave enough to stand up for our own rights, fight our own battles and protect those who aren't capable of fighting for themselves.

The decrease in political participation and reluctance to care about the future of our country is a growing trend that is negatively contributing to the downward spiral of a disgraceful generation with an "entitlement" mindset. The truth is, we aren't entitled to anything. Nobody owes us the privileges we take advantage of every day: a strong military to protect us, clean water to drink, healthy food to eat, advanced health care and medicine, Social Security benefits when we retire, freedom of speech and religion ... the list goes on and on. We have abundant blessings to be humble and thankful for, yet some members of our generation selfishly demand even more and assume every privilege should be handed to them.

The girl who never shows up to school now expects our country's taxpayers to pay for her college education. The boy who dropped out of high

school now expects a higher minimum wage even if that means one of his co-workers, a single mother, will lose her job. What happened to the theory of "work and reward?" How did we become so self-absorbed?

As the youth of our nation cowardly shuns from the consequences of our self-centeredness and unwillingness to take control of our own problems, we remain oblivious to the real injustices and tragedies occurring every day. On the other side of the world, there's a girl who risks her life by sneaking her way into school because she believes in the benefit and privilege of getting an education. There's a boy who is publicly executed in the street because he stole a loaf of bread to bring home to his starving mother.

Yet we sit here scrolling through Twitter feeds on our cellphones during class and throwing away cafeteria food because we "aren't in the mood for pizza" and have the nerve to say we aren't directly affected by the problems of those who can't defend themselves against the injustice they face every day. Newsflash! Taking care of humanity is everyone's problem and is everyone's responsibility.

Every day, citizens of this country, especially the youth and the young adults, should remember to be grateful and mindful of what a privilege it is to have all the information and knowledge we could ever dream of attaining literally resting in the palm of our hands. Even with all of our generous blessings, we still make the choice to remain ignorant to the abuse and atrocity that takes place every minute of every single day as we live in our own com-

fortable, carefree, delusional little bubble.

It is blatantly disrespectful to the hard-working labor slaves away by the previous generations of our families and founders who managed to maintain a humble mindset of selfless hope to create the tremendously advantaged lives we shamefully take for granted today. It is dishonorable to the precedent they left behind, providing for us a legacy of convenience, opportunity, prosperity and bliss, all luxuries they never allowed themselves the satisfaction to experience, as they sacrificed on our behalf, for the sake of our betterment.

With the vast resources available to our privileged generation, there is no excuse for us to shy away from working as hard as we can toward making a true and lasting difference in our world, a real assertive effort to establish peace. I challenge us, the youth of our country and the future of the entire world, to grasp these issues in the palm of our hands with a tight fist and, once and for all, to sustain co-existence in a global community founded on the principles of love, service and acceptance of one another.

I propose we start live by a new theory: "Work ... then work a little harder." To create a better tomorrow, we have to start with today. Let's plan to leave this world knowing we gave it our best effort, we never gave up, and we always strove to create an abundant, flourishing future. Step aside grandpa — a new greatest generation is in the making.

Emily Finn is a 2015 Canton High School graduate who is at Central Michigan University studying journalism.

Radio station 88.1 The Park hosts Coffee with a Cop

88.1 The Park will host Coffee with a Cop with the Canton Township Police 2:30-4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, at the Rock Cafe at Salem High School.

Coffee with a Cop provides a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the department's work in Canton's neighborhoods and business

districts. Coffee with a Cop breaks down the barriers and allows for relaxed one-on-one interaction between citizens and police officers. The intent is to

provide an informal setting for individuals to sit down with police officers to discuss issues and build relationships. "We're excited to partner with the Canton Township

Police to offer residents a chance to share questions and concerns, and provide an opportunity to learn more about the work of the police," said Bill Keith, station manager.

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2015 TAURUS AWD SHO	<p>\$41,095.00 MSRP BEFORE DISCOUNTS</p> <p>\$38,753.33 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS PRICE</p> <p>-\$4,000.00 LESS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH</p> <p>-\$750.00 LESS FORD CREDIT CUSTOMER CASH</p> <p>\$34,003.33 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NET PRICE</p> <hr/> <p>\$7,091.67 TOTAL VALUE</p>
2016 ESCAPE SE	<p>\$28,525.00 MSRP BEFORE DISCOUNTS</p> <p>\$26,209.52 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS PRICE</p> <p>-\$1,000.00 LESS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH</p> <p>-\$500.00 LESS FORD CREDIT CUSTOMER CASH</p> <p>\$24,709.52 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NET PRICE</p> <hr/> <p>\$3,815.48* TOTAL VALUE</p>
2015 F-150 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4	<p>\$47,900.00 MSRP BEFORE DISCOUNTS</p> <p>\$42,216.35 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS PRICE</p> <p>-\$1,500.00 LESS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH</p> <p>-\$1,000.00 LESS RETAIL BONUS CASH</p> <p>-\$750.00 LESS FORD CREDIT CUSTOMER CASH</p> <p>\$37,166.35 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NET PRICE</p> <hr/> <p>\$10,733.65* TOTAL VALUE</p>

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Man pleads guilty to sex with underage Canton girl

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A jailed Troy man has pleaded guilty to a criminal charge of having sex with an underage Canton girl he met through a social networking site, court records show.

Brett Christopher Lloyd, 42, could face penalties ranging up to

15 years in prison when he is sentenced Dec. 2 by Wayne County Circuit Judge Richard Skutt.

Lloyd's decision to plead guilty to one count of third-degree criminal



Lloyd

sexual conduct averted a jury trial that he otherwise would have faced this month in Skutt's courtroom.

In return for his plea, authorities agreed to dismiss five other similar counts of criminal sexual conduct against him. Court documents indicate Lloyd is in the Wayne County Jail as he awaits his sentencing.

His defense attorney could not be reached Wednesday for comment.

Lloyd was charged in April after Canton police say he was accused of befriending an underage girl through an undisclosed social media site and arranging to meet with her late last year and early this year. Canton police Lt.

Craig Wilsher has said the incidents allegedly occurred "over a period of time," though Lloyd pleaded guilty to just one count.

Police had declined to reveal certain information, such as where Lloyd and the girl met. Authorities began an investigation after the victim reported the situation to police.

Wilsher has warned others to learn from the incident and to use caution when striking up a conversation with strangers online. He also has urged parents to monitor their children's social media activity to the extent they can.

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734-972-0919

Salvation Army offers ways to help at Christmas

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The red kettles and bell-ringers at street corners and strip malls are the most visible signs of the Salvation Army's appeal to the public as it ramps up Christmastime assistance to needy families in the Plymouth-Canton area.

The local Red Kettle campaign, which officially began Nov. 13, has a goal this year of \$225,000, and the Salvation Army's Plymouth Corps has an overall fundraising goal of \$315,000 for the season. That represents about 85 percent of the annual budget, said Sandy Kollinger, the Plymouth Corps' volunteer and special events coordinator.

The Plymouth Corps' service area includes Plymouth and Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township and Canton Township. There are 25 kettle locations for this year's campaign, in those communities, plus in Belleville, and volunteer bell-ringers are still needed. Those interested in volunteering can sign up at www.ringbell.org or call the Plymouth Corps office at 734-453-5464.

But the Plymouth



The Red Kettle drive isn't the only way to help out during the holidays through the Salvation Army.

Corps has several other giving programs that let the public lend a helping hand during the holidays.

Coats for Kids

The Corps is collecting new gloves, mittens and hats for its Coats for Kids program. The cold-weather outerwear collected will be distributed this fall and winter to local children who might otherwise have to go without.

A donation from Com-

munity Financial Credit Union helped purchase coats for the program through Burlington Coat Factory.

Donations will be accepted at the Plymouth Corps office, 9451 S. Main (just south of Ann Arbor Road) between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and between 9 a.m. and noon Saturday. Donations can be made through Monday, Dec. 21.

Toy shop

The Plymouth Corps is also seeking help in stocking its toy shop, which allows local families that can't afford much at Christmas to pick out new toys and clothing for their children.

New clothing in sizes newborn to 4X are needed, plus new toys for a children of a variety of ages and gift cards, such as for fast-food restaurants, stores and movie

theaters.

Collections for the toy shop are through Monday, Dec. 14. For information on how to donate, email Laurie Aren, the Plymouth Corps' director of family and community ministries, at laurie_aren@usc.salvationarmy.org.

Adopt an angel

People can also "adopt" an individual child for the holidays, providing special gifts and granting holiday wishes. Children up to age 18 are available for "adoptions." Those interested should email Aren at laurie_aren@usc.salvationarmy.org.

Monetary gifts

The Plymouth Corps is also accepting gifts, by cash or check, separately from its Red Kettle drive. Such donations can be mailed to or dropped off at the Plymouth Corps office, 9451 S. Main, Plymouth MI 48170. Holiday donations other than Red Kettle donations are being accepted through January.

People can also use a smart phone to make a gift by texting SAL-MICH13 to 71777.

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Twitter: @mattjachman

Pearl Harbor Day: Ceremony Dec. 7 in Plymouth

"The Day Which Will Live in Infamy" will be remembered with a ceremony at 1 p.m. — when Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese — Monday, Dec. 7, at the Plymouth Veterans Memorial Park.

American Legion Post No. 391 Cmdr. Johnnie Johnson; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6695 Cmdr. Bob Caldwell; and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter No. 528 President John Spencer and their committee have organized this memorial ceremony.

Pearl Harbor Day is a day that should be a quiet memory of those military men and women who never asked questions, but followed orders — and died.

The American flag should be flown at half-staff to honor those who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

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Canton Community Foundation moves forward with two managing directors

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

When new executive director Michelle Malamis left the Canton Community Foundation in August 2014, after only 11 months in the position, employees Beth Meade and Darice Schubatis stepped up to the challenge of continuing the nonprofit's work.

Late this summer, their positions as leaders of the foundation were made official.

Mead now serves as managing director of donor relations, while Schubatis serves as managing director of finance and administration. "We are no longer having an executive director," said Meade, who has been with the foundation for more than two years.

Both of the managing directors has experience in charitable organizations and nonprofit man-



Beth Meade with her husband John.

agement. Meade has more than 30 years in community outreach, marketing and communications. Schubatis, who also has more than two years with the foundation, has had various positions in accounting and financial analysis, both as an employee and as an independent contractor.

"They are both experienced and are doing well," CCF board chair Nancy Eggenberger said. "I think the foundation is coming along. We are going to grow and do well."

Meade and Schubatis will also have the help of Greg Schupra, an experienced philanthropic adviser. He will serve as



Darice Schubatis with her daughter.

executive adviser and philanthropy counsel.

In addition, the 10-member board of directors will continue its work. In addition to Eggenberger, the board includes Betty Bloch, Paul M. Denski, Brian Geer, Misty Matthews, Jim Ryan, Richard Schubatis, Steven Sneiderman, Syed Taj and Dave Viss-

er.

"I'm excited about the future of the foundation and I have complete confidence in our board and our staff," Eggenberger said. "I know that the community will quickly see the positive changes we are making in moving the foundation forward."

Also new for the foun-

ation is a donor relations committee that is led by Ryan. "We are changing the focus, so we are not competing with other fundraising organizations," Meade said. "We want to work with people who want to be philanthropic and want to fulfill needs in the community."

Eggenberger, meanwhile, lauded outgoing board chair Jerry Grady. He got the foundation "through a difficult transitional period. Jerry not only helped put the new staff in place, but also helped to secure several partnerships, including most recently an exciting new relationship with the Canton Public Library. Jerry's attention to details and financial expertise will be missed."

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Former FBI agent talks art crime at Livonia Town Hall

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Robert Wittman knows how important art is to society. That's why he willfully worked undercover to try to recover it for many years, including a self-portrait done by Rembrandt stolen from a Swedish museum.

Working as an FBI agent, he and authorities from Sweden and Denmark worked back in 2000 to recover the painting, valued at \$35 million.

"I don't know of any other property that three nations would try to get together to recover," he said. "It means something to all of us, not just one country. While it's owned by the museum, we all have



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Retired FBI investigator Robert Wittman talks about tracking stolen art.

a stake in it. And that's why it's important."

Wittman spoke Wednesday morning at St. Mary's Cultural Center as a part of the Livonia Town Hall series about his time with the FBI, investigating art crime for several decades. He shared stories of working undercover, including

showing hidden camera video clips of him in a Danish hotel room, attempting to purchase the Rembrandt from some individuals suspected of stealing it several years earlier from a museum in Stockholm.

The painting, he said, is a target especially because of how easy it is to transport it.

"What else can you take that's that portable and that small that's worth that much money?" he said. "Very few things."

Wittman said investigating art crimes is a big player in the global economic world, with the art business totaling about \$200 billion each year. Forty percent of that, he said, funnels through the United States.

Art crime accounts for

about \$5 billion a year, Wittman said.

"It's a big deal," he said. "It's a big business."

The Art Crime Team was created under his watch in 2005 and continued even after he retired from the agency in 2008. Wittman now operates a private firm dealing in art security and recovery and has written a book about his experiences that he said is being looked at for a motion picture in the future.

The best advice he had for aspiring art collectors? Buy a piece out of love of it and not as an investment.

"You have to be very careful before making that big purchase," he said. "Buy it because you love it. Don't buy it as an investment."

Canton historians serve up Christmas tea

Area residents are encouraged to attend the Canton Historical Society's third annual Christmas Tea at the Bartlett-Travis House, one of Canton's oldest homes that will be festively decorated for the holidays in circa 1900 Christmas finery.

The event takes place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. Participants can take a step back in time as they enjoy a holiday afternoon tea in the historic house, located in Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road, north of Cherry Hill. It features an assortment of teas, mini-quiches, sandwiches and desserts.

Musical entertainment will be provided by harpist Laurel Federbush. Event seating is limited to 20 guests.

Tickets are \$25 per person or \$20 for Canton Historical Society members. They are on sale at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway.

For more information about this special holiday event, go to www.cantonhistorical.org or call Sandy at 734-397-3048.

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er handling and control. The system responds actively by redirecting power to the appropriate wheel for best traction. It also helps enhance the vehicle's performance and handling in driving conditions such as rain, sleet, snow, gravel or sand.

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"Great lease and purchase offers are going on now," Conley said.

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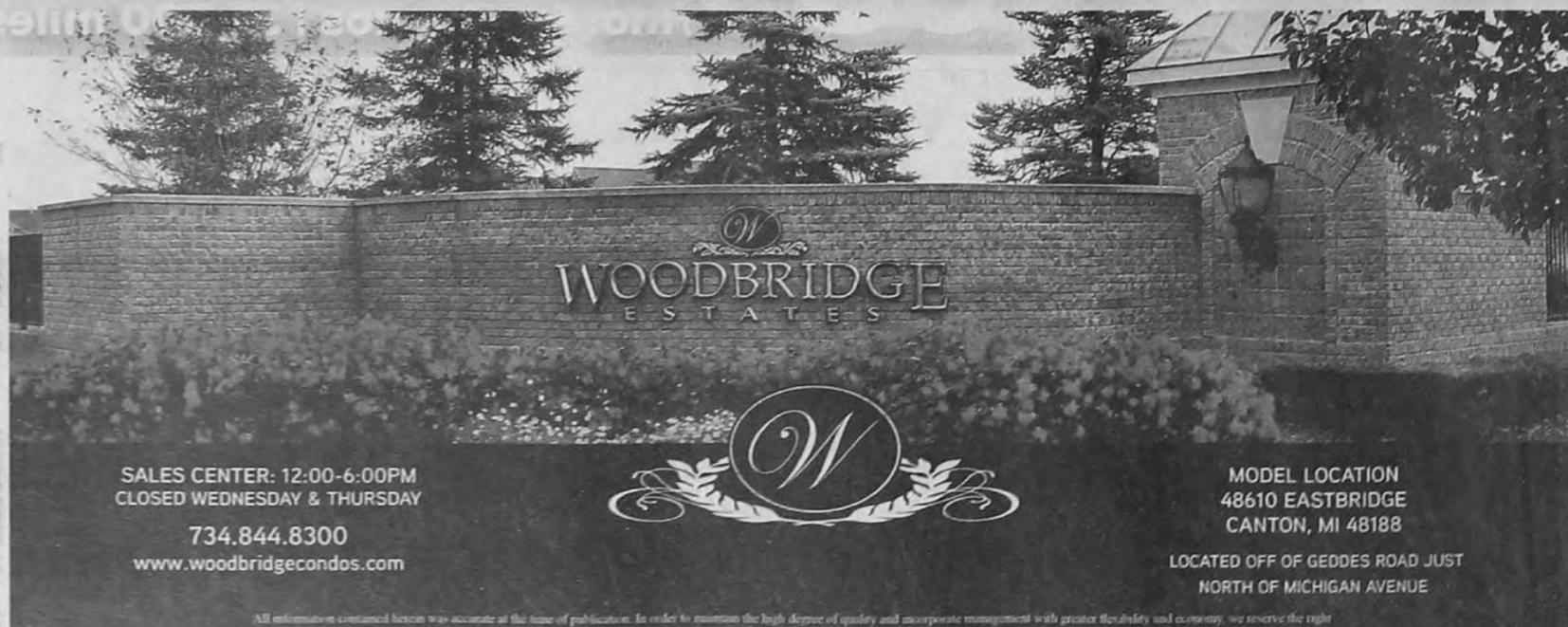
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Let's be thankful: Donate to help others

During the holiday season, it is very easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of finding that perfect gift for family and friends, but it's important to remember that there are many people within the Canton community who are less fortunate and will be struggling with basic necessities, let alone holiday celebrations.

This time of the year, Canton Leisure Services is grateful for the individuals, businesses and organizations that have provided support in-



Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz
GUEST COLUMNIST

tegral to the Canton recreational mission over the years. In the spirit of gratitude, Canton Leisure Services understands the importance of charitable giving, so we are encouraging Canton residents to help area nonprofit groups brighten the holidays for families who find themselves facing a bleak holiday season. There are many wonder-

ful organizations out there who could use additional assistance this holiday season.

Canton Leisure Services is currently teaming up with the Canton Goodfellows to help collect holiday donations for its "No Child Without a Christmas" campaign that is currently in full swing. Donations of new and unwrapped toys are now being collected through Dec. 4 at several Canton locations, including the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, and the Canton Administration Building,

1150 S. Canton Center Road. To find additional information on how to support the Canton Goodfellows, go to www.cantongoodfellows.com.

With so many children in our community who are faced with not knowing where their next meal is coming from or if they will be receiving gifts like many of their peers this holiday season, it's important to support organizations such as The Salvation Army that assists needy families, as well as seniors and the homeless. Donations to its Red Kettle campaign

provide Christmas dinners, clothing and toys for families in need, including families of prisoners. Donations are currently being accepted at Canton Family Store and Donation Center, 4403 Joy Road. For more information on how you can support The Salvation Army this holiday season, call 734-416-1925.

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." As we enter this holiday season, remember to be thankful for what we all have and

make it a priority to help those less fortunate in our community.

Please consider making a donation and supporting these area nonprofit organizations that are serving individuals right here in Canton. With your support, you can help make a difference and put smiles on faces and food on the tables of those who are in need in our community. For more information, go to www.canton-mi.org.

Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz is director of Canton Leisure Services.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

'THE NUTCRACKER' ON STAGE

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29

Details: Northville Ballet Theatre presents its annual production of *The Nutcracker*, along with contemporary Christmas dances. Performances to be held at Northville High School. Program to benefit Northville Civic Concern. For reserved seating and tickets, call Timberlane Dance at 248-924-8357. Adult tickets are \$15 or \$10 for seniors and children. The company is under the direction of artistic director Kathy Cooke. Go to www.timberlandance.com.

CANCER SUPPORT

Time/Date: 6-7:30 p.m. third Monday of each month

Details: November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Connecting with others who know what it is to have lung cancer can help during this difficult time. To start, join the Lung Cancer Support Group at the Beaumont Cancer Center-Farmington Hills, located at 27900 Grand River Ave., Suite 230. Thoracic surgeon Dr. David Sternberg leads the group. The group is open to anyone living with lung cancer and their loved ones. Meetings are free the third Monday each month. For more information, call 248-473-4828.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 6

Location: Western Wayne

County Conservation Association, 6700 Napier Road, Plymouth

Details: The Western Wayne County Conservation Association, Inc., will hold its annual 3-D archery shoot to collect new, unwrapped toys as part of the U.S. Marines Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

Cost: Participants can either bring a new, unwrapped toy or make a \$10 donation to the Toys for Tots Program. Donations can also be dropped off until Dec. 6 at the WWCCA in Plymouth.

Contact: The Western Wayne County Conservation Association at 734-453-9843.

COMPASSIONATE CARE

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. first and third Thursday of each month

Location: Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton

Details: Compassionate Coffee Club is an open and ongoing grief support group offering support and socialization for widows and widowers moving beyond the first year of loss. The program is sponsored by Compassionate Care Hospice.

Cost: Free, but drink purchase is required for use of space

Contact: Ann Kozma, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at 888-983-9050, or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

GRIEF MATTERS

Time/Date: 2:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6

Location: Plymouth District

Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth

Details: To help individuals coping with grief, Arbor Hospice & Palliative Care offers a supportive caring environment to work through the loss. This special workshop will give you helpful tips for coping with the upcoming holidays. Support groups and events are open to everyone, regardless of whether their loved one received services from Arbor Hospice & Palliative Care. All programs are limited to 12 participants and registration is required at least one week in advance.

Cost: Free

Contact: Sara Swanson at 734-794-5469 or sswanson@arborhospice.org; <http://www.arborhospice.org>

ANTIQUe MARKET

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 6

Location: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor/Saline Road, Ann Arbor

Details: The Saline Antiques & Vintage Market is open. The event is pet-friendly, but pets must be leashed. The event continues rain or shine. Everything is under cover with food and refreshments.

Cost: Admission is \$6. Parking is free

Contact: www.salineantiques-market.com. To become an exhibitor, contact Doug Supinger, manager, at 937-875-0808 or email salinemarket@gmail.com

Companies reach out to help developmentally disabled people

Yazaki North America, Iron Mountain and Image Business Solutions are assisting families supported by Friends of Community Living Services this holiday season.

Every year, Friends of CLS displays a Giving Tree in its Wayne office lobby, filled with names and wish lists of items they would like for Christmas. The public is invited to take a name or two from the tree and buy gifts. This provides an opportunity to the public to make a difference in the lives of people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The charitable donations from Yazaki North America, Iron Mountain and Image Business Solutions make it possible to support more families during the holiday season.

"The Yazaki Corp. has been a charitable giver to Friends of CLS for over a decade and this

year donated an additional \$1,000 to support families during the holiday season," CLS public relations director Tiffany Devon said. "They truly exemplify their mission of 'supporting the communities where they live and work' and we are honored to have been selected to participate in their holiday giving initiative."

Yazaki North America is part of the Yazaki Group, an independent automotive component maker in Canton and a global leader in the research, development and delivery of vehicle power and data solutions for automotive applications. <http://www.yazaki-na.com/>

Iron Mountain is a storage and information management company, assisting more than 156,000 organizations in 36 countries on five continents with storing, protecting and managing their information. <http://www.ironmountain.com/Company/About-Us.aspx>

Image Business Solutions is one of southeast Michigan's leading suppliers of office automation products including digital copiers and printers, faxes, network printers, imaging, scanning and document management systems. <http://www.imagebusinessolutions.com/>

CLS is a private, nonprofit organization that provides supports and services to more than 4,000 children and adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. CLS also provides services to seniors and those with chronic illness. CLS is funded by the Detroit-Wayne Mental Health Authority, the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority and Macomb County Community Mental Health, United Way and the city of Allen Park.

Wayne County to offer free HIV testing

The Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans and Community Wellness' Wellness Services Division will offer free HIV testing and counseling Tuesday, Dec. 1, World AIDS Day.

The testing will take place at the Wayne County Health Clinic, 33030 Van Born, in Wayne from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinic is closed between 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch. Testing is open to all Wayne County residents on a walk-in basis and no appointment is necessary.

Observed annually Dec. 1, World AIDS Day is dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of the HIV infection. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 1.2 million people in the United States are living with HIV and almost one in eight people are unaware of their infection.

People getting tested can expect a brief screening process, which includes a series of questions to assess their risk level for having contracted HIV. All records are kept confidential. Blood is taken from a finger and results are provided within 30 minutes.

If the test is positive, a venous blood draw is taken, with the sample sent to the state lab for

confirmation. The Wayne Clinic will follow up with the client on the results of the test.

"Our goal is to raise awareness of the risk of HIV through education, outreach, testing and counseling," said Dr. Mouhanad Hammami, director of the Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans and Community Wellness. "Our department has administered nearly 1,000 HIV tests since January 2015. HIV/AIDS is a real threat in our community and we must continue our

advocacy and push towards greater access to treatment for all."

The CDC recommends that those 13 and older get tested for HIV at least once in their lifetime. Getting tested for HIV is the only way to find out if you have HIV. Getting tested is the first step to accessing medical care and preventing the spread of the virus. Without medical care, HIV leads to AIDS and premature death.

For more information, call the Wayne Health Clinic at 734-727-7100.

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Local singers hit the stage for shot at The Met

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Katrina Van Maanen and Matthew Konopacki studied music together when both attended the University of Houston in Texas.

They were together again Nov. 21, this time on a stage that was, metaphorically at least, much bigger than the physical one at Madonna University.

Van Maanen, a Birmingham native, and Konopacki, a Stevenson High School graduate from Livonia, were among three dozen singers auditioning for three spots with The Metropolitan Opera.

Neither one made it, but both were happy to have had the chance.

"I sang well ... everyone sang well," said Konopacki, who earned his bachelor's degree at Eastern Michigan. "Overall, I'd say it was a good experience."

Local auditions

The district auditions came to Madonna after the Livonia school was suggested by Barb Wiltzie, associate professor of voice at Madonna, who is also co-chair of the Michigan Committee of the Metropolitan Opera



Katrina Van Maanen of Birmingham was one of three dozen singers who auditioned for three spots with The Metropolitan Opera at Madonna University.

National Council auditions.

Having the auditions so close to home — singers usually have to travel to some far-off regional location — made it a natural for both singers.

"The competition has always been on my radar, but this was my first year participating," Van Maanen said. "It is great that they come to Livonia, because it is so close to home."

When he saw the auditions scheduled for his hometown, Konopacki

decided to throw his voice into the ring.

Serious study

He had, of course, know about The MET competition since he started serious classical study, so this year he decided to follow the leads of friends who've tried it.

"I have several friends who have competed in other districts and I have wanted to give it a shot for a while," Konopacki said. "I now feel like I'm at a point in

my technique that I feel ready to do so, representing myself in the best way I possibly can."

He's been working on developing that technique for a while now. After getting his undergraduate degree from EMU, Konopacki did his graduate study at The Moores School of Music at the University of Houston, where he finished last year.

Different journey

He spent eight months as a young artist with the

Pensacola Opera in Florida, then spent the summer in Brevard, N.C., singing roles in *Così Fan Tutte* (Mozart) and *The Ballad of Baby Doe* (Douglas Moore). He's currently singing with the Michigan Opera Theatre Chorus and is in the midst of a run of *The Passenger* by Weinberg.

"I have been singing my entire life, in different capacities other than classical/opera, but singing nonetheless," Konopacki said. "I ... started serious voice study my senior year of high school. It was there that I fell in love with classical music."

Van Maanen's journey was slightly different. She got her bachelor's degree at Western Michigan, then was at Houston the same time as Konopacki.

Van Maanen, who teaches private voice lessons in her native Birmingham and is director of development for Opera MODO, a new opera company in Detroit, didn't study opera seriously until she got to Western Michigan.

Every singer's dream

She started as a music therapy major, a course of instruction that in-

cluded lessons in classical music.

"I fell in love with singing classically and decided to switch my major to voice performance," Von Maanen said.

Both singers agree The Met is a goal for all of them and were looking forward to the opportunity to audition.

"I think The Metropolitan is every singer's goal," Von Maanen said. "It is the biggest opera company in the country and probably the most renowned company in the world."

Konopacki was disappointed not to make the final cut, but will still be happy doing what he loves to do.

"I think every young singer hopes to one day make it onto (The Met's) roster and I know there are some young singers who have done that through their successes in the MET competition," the Livonia native said.

"Of course, I would love to sing for the MET one day, but as long as I get to do what I love at a high artistic level for the rest of my life, I feel that that would be a success."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Livonia resident makes all seven Komen 3-day cancer walks nationwide

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Livonia residents Pala and Tom Liske have a unique distinction in the Susan G. Komen 3-Day walk community after last weekend.

The couple participated in all seven walks across the country, starting in Detroit and traveling to cities such as Atlanta, Philadelphia and Seattle before wrapping up last weekend in San Diego. Pala walked each of the events and Tom crewed each of them, making them part of a small class of less than a dozen people nationwide to participate in every event.

She said the idea to do all seven has been one she's thought about for many years and decided last year to make the leap after turning 60 and becoming a 10-year breast cancer survivor herself.

"It's something I'd always aspired to do from the very beginning," she said. "I just decided that if it was going to happen, what better year for it to happen than acknowledging these milestones?"

To do so, she needed to raise \$16,100 for breast cancer research, \$2,300

for each walk. She turned in her donations after doing several fundraisers in Livonia earlier this year and continued her walking training. She reached that figure in May.

"We were doing about two fundraisers a month," Pala said.

She also could typically be seen walking around Farmington Road in Livonia, north into downtown Farmington to practice walking hills as a part of the 24-week training schedule, logging more than 1,000 miles in the process.

All the money Pala raised went to the foundation, while she and Tom spent their own money on travel expenses.

"I have a new respect for people who travel for a living," she said.

Fast fundraising

Jennifer Hanskat, the 3-Day coach for the Michigan event, also

works with the "series walkers," those doing all seven events. She said there were six other people walking every event and two others working the crew at all of them.

She said working with Pala is a unique experience, as she's always energetic about getting out and fundraising.

"She called and I said, 'If anybody can do this, I have no doubt you can do this,'" said Hanskat, who lives near Chicago, but plans on moving to Michigan. "Of all seven doing all of them this year, she was the first one to be fully funded."

Each one of the walks has its own distinct flavor, Pala said, with some being more scenic than others, while some took walkers near more historical sites. It's been a truly global experience, she said, meeting people from across the country and the world at each event.

She said she walked past several of the spots involved near where John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas during her first trip to that city.

"Each walk is unique in its own features. Some are more scenic than others, some are more historic than others," she said. "When I walked Dallas ... for the first time in my lifetime, I was able to walk by the book depository and I saw the grassy knoll and I saw the 'X' on the street."

"I grew up with that, but I actually saw it with my own eyes."

She said there have been several inspirational moments walking the last few months, including seeing a woman along the side of one of the walks wearing a shirt that read "43-year survivor."



Pala Liske walked 60 miles in three days seven times this year. Husband Tom Liske worked on the crew for each event.

That's a goal, Pala said, she has for herself.

"I hope that one day I'm one of those 43-year survivors," she said. "As they say at closing ceremonies, I wish for the

day where survivors are called, simply, people."

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SECTION 00 11 13
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools' Construction Bid Package 5F, consisting of:

P-CEP Varsity Field Grandstand Replacement Project

will be received at the office of Ms. Pamela Anstey, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 until **1:30 P.M., local time on Tuesday, December 15, 2015** at which time they will be opened, read publicly and tabulated.

Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

This Project will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions of work:

- 102: Earthwork/Site Utilities/Asphalt/Site Concrete
- 143: Electrical
- 149: Fencing
- 156: Exterior Grandstands

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Dodge Plan Room, Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), Reed Construction Data, and Builders Exchange, Lansing.

Bid Documents will be available beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 via the following:

- Bidders may obtain one (1) set of 1/2 size bidding documents beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400.
- Bidders may download bid documents from **Gradebeam.com** by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400 to obtain log in information for access to the project documents.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope. The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

There will be a pre-bid meeting held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 1:30 P.M. at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project, schedule and to answer any questions that bidders may have. All Bidders are encouraged to attend.

All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 00 41 26), Proposal Execution Form (Section 00 42 00), and the Iran Economics Sanctions Act Affidavit. The Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by Section 1267 of the Revised School Code, as amended, MCL 380.1267, and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit form may be found in section 00 42 10 of the Bidding Requirements & General Conditions Manual.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the school district is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the bid or failure of the bidder to enter a contract for performance. Further, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

END OF SECTION
00 11 13 - 1

Published: November 29 & December 3, 2015

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New School High hosts informational meeting

New School High, a tuition-free public school academy, is holding an informational meeting for families looking for a high school experience that emphasizes hands-on learning, academic challenge and community engagement.

The meeting will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the school, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Enter at the McClumpha Road entrance.

For more information, contact school leader Cynthia Burnstein at cburnstein@newschool-high.org or 734-386-6601. To learn more about the school, check the school website at newschool-high.org and Facebook page www.facebook.com/newschoolhigh.

To let the public know what students have been up since school opened this year:

September

» First full day of school was a field trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts to explore world cultures.



New School High board members Gayla Houser (president), Carey Gary (trustee), Mike Wright (treasurer), Joanne Lamar (secretary), Karen Phillippi (vice president) and Cyndi Burnstein (school leader), with Central Michigan's Corey Northrop (left) and Orlando Castellon (right).

» Families toured The Village Workshop in Northville to learn about maker-spaces and how our students might participate.

» A second field trip of the year was an exploration of downtown Ply-

mouth to learn what makes a community: City Hall (government), Baker House (homes), District Library (institutions), Veterans Memorial (leaders), Miracle League Baseball Field (service), Chamber of

Commerce (business).

» Staff participated in Educator Day at the Natural Science Museum at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

» Social Studies teacher Hillary Hanel presented on the topic of

project-based learning at the museum conference in Ann Arbor.

October

» World history students organized their teams for the online Fantasy Geopolitics League, with the goal of being well-informed on current events.

» A student-generated campaign "Socktober" was initiated to raise funds to purchase socks and clothing for the homeless.

» Lynette Bennett of Schollegiate Advisors gave a free class to parents and students about college and career planning.

» New School High students participated in the Plymouth Pumpkin Palooza by facilitating the children's sack races in Kellogg Park.

» A student-generated social event of hayride, corn maze and bonfire took place at Three Cedars orchard in Northville.

» Teachers applied for and were awarded three grants for project-

based learning and arts education for approximately \$1,000.

November

» Teachers participated in professional development on Project-Based Learning and Universal Design for Learning.

» The full student body learned the basics of budgeting, banking and credit cards from Community Federal Credit Union in the first of a two-part program about personal finance.

» Students began work on collaborative projects for the National History Day competition. This year's theme is "Exploration, Encounter, Exchange." Every student in our school will participate in the first round competition held in January in Detroit. Go to www.nhd.org

» Technology class has students developing their own learning plans based on the Michigan Merit curriculum technology standards. Highly engaged freshmen are learning coding, html and building websites.

Plymouth Township, junior chamber host holiday kickoff

Plymouth Township will host its inaugural Kick Off to Christmas on Tuesday, Dec. 1. The festivities include a Christmas Open House at township hall and a Christmas tree lighting at Township Park.

"We are excited to kick off the Christmas season and fill our community with Christmas spirit," Plymouth Township Supervisor Shannon Price said. "Whether it is the Open House or the Christmas tree lighting, we believe we have something for everyone to enjoy."

The township will begin the day with an Open House at township hall. Residents

are invited to come to township hall 8-10 a.m. and visit with township staff and neighbors and take a tour of the building. This is a great opportunity for residents to come and see township hall and meet the staff that works hard every day to make Plymouth Township a great community. Both the treasurer and the clerk will be providing food and refreshments for visitors.

"We have a fantastic community and beautiful town hall," Treasurer Ron Edwards said. "We are thrilled to welcome the Christmas season both in township hall and at the park."

The township has partnered with the Plymouth Canton Junior Chamber (formally the Jaycees) for the tree lighting ceremony at Township Park. The night promises to bring in the Christmas spirit with the choir from First Presbyterian Church singing carols, kids decorating cookies and sledding (weather permitting). There will also be a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Families will have an opportunity to get their picture with Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

The Junior Chamber will collect hats, gloves and sock donations for the Plymouth Goodfellows.

"The Junior Chamber is looking forward to our first project with the township," said Erin McKenzie, founder of the Plymouth Canton Junior Chamber. "This event helps our chapter connect with young families and provides us with an opportunity to make a positive impact in our community."

"Our Kick Off to Christmas promises to be a wonderful community event," Price said. "Partnering with the Junior Chamber and the Goodfellows is an excellent example of how we all can work together to build on our community's tradition of being a great place to live."

PCAC offers glass etching workshop for holidays

A Something New Workshop featuring Glass Etching 101 is scheduled for 12:30-2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 Sheldon.

In the workshop, students will learn how to make a personalized, etched-glass vase/candle holder and then incorporate it into a holiday centerpiece that can be customized for each season.

The workshop is \$35 for members, \$40 for non-members.

For more information and to register, contact the PCAC at 734-416-4278.

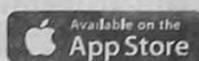


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Check out the well-equipped 2015 Nissan Sentra at Nissan of Canton

cars.com

The Nissan Sentra compact sedan comes with four-cylinder power and a choice of a manual or automatic transmission. It is available at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave. Competitors include the Chevrolet Cruze, Ford Focus, Honda Civic, Hyundai Elantra and Toyota Corolla.

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Rochon's art on display at Liberty Street Brewing

Plymouth's Liberty Street Brewing Co.'s Upper Hall Gallery will showcase the work of fine artist and photographer Joanne Rochon from Dec. 5 through Jan. 29. An opening reception will kick off the exhibit 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the brewery, 149 W. Liberty Street.

Daily dream-like twists and nightly dreams influence the compelling paintings of local artist, graphic designer and Northville Art House Exhibit Committee Chair Joanne Rochon. One glance at Rochon's oil paintings "Parade Float" or "Eleven Forty Five" and the viewer is taken into another space, where the artist graciously allows you to experience and escape to a psychological landscape based more on emotion than reality.

Choosing to define the moment by light and color versus digital manipulation, reality shifts into secondary images can be seen in Rochon's photography, all meticulously captured by her camera in a specific moment in time.

Born and reared in Detroit, Rochon earned her bachelor of fine arts degree at Eastern Michigan University, concentrating on painting and photography. While at EMU, she established one of only three student-run galleries in the United States - the Intermedia Gallery, which is still in operation today.

Shortly after college, Rochon and husband moved to



"Family of Tornados" by Joanne Rochon.

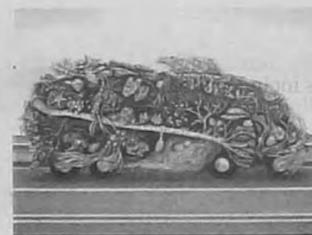
New York City, where she exhibited her art in solo and group shows in venues around Manhattan, while creating

Joanne Rochon Design, a graphic design firm whose clients included Estee Lauder, Brooklyn Conservatory of

Music and The Lincoln Center for Performing Arts. A recent move back to Michigan has allowed Rochon



"Shipping Sheep," is among the art to be exhibited by Joanne Rochon.



"Parade Float" by Joanne Rochon, who has an exhibit in Plymouth.

to display her work at various galleries, including The Scarab Club in Detroit, The Northville Art House, The Crooked Tree Art Center in Petoskey and The Muskegon Museum of Art.

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Freeway speeder arrested for suspended license

A 21-year-old woman was arrested for driving with a suspended license early Nov. 21 after being stopped for driving nearly 100 mph on the freeway.

An officer who had been monitoring traffic with radar from a position on I-275 near Ann Arbor Trail reported spotting the car traveling at more than 90 mph

shortly before 4 a.m., a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

Radar confirmed the car was traveling at 90-plus mph and measured a maximum speed of 97 mph, the report said.

The driver of the car, a Kia Forte, told the officer she was coming from a casino in Detroit and was on her way to Ann Arbor. Police found that her license had been suspended and she was arrested. She was also

given a speeding ticket.

Drunk speeder

Another speeder was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated after police clocked him at more than 100 mph on westbound M-14 the evening of Nov. 15.

Two breath-analysis tests on the man registered a blood-alcohol level of 0.18 percent, a police report said, and two bottles of vodka, including one that was half-empty, were found

in a duffel bag on the front passenger seat of the Jeep Commander he was driving.

An officer first spotted the Commander on northbound I-275, noting the driver was swerving and driving at times on the right shoulder, a police report said.

The Commander's driver then merged onto westbound M-14, accelerating rapidly once on that freeway, police said. The police report said the officer had to drive at

more than 100 mph to keep up with it. The Commander again went on the shoulder, police said, and the officer pulled over the driver east of Beck Road.

The 41-year-old man's eyes were bloodshot and he smelled of alcohol, police said. He admitted he had been speeding, but denied having had anything to drink.

License suspension

A 27-year-old woman was arrested for driving

with a suspended license the night of Nov. 21 after a police check of the license plate on the car she was driving showed the car had been impounded by police in Detroit.

An officer pulled over the driver, who was in a Dodge Magnum, about 11 p.m. Saturday in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Massey Drive, west of I-275. She was arrested.

— By Matt Jachman

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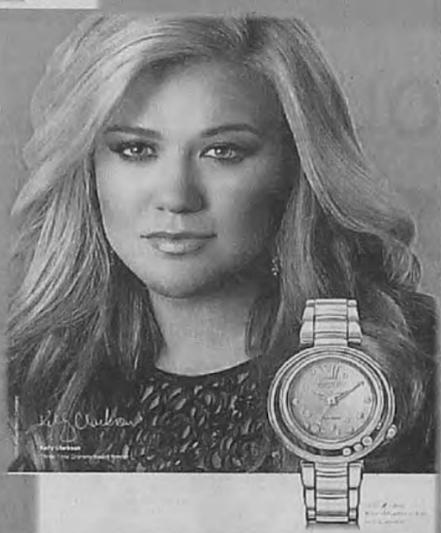


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HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Falcons jump on Flyers early in 8-2 win

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

A year's time has made a big difference for the Farmington High School hockey team, which struggled to score at pivotal moments last year. That hasn't been a problem for the undefeated Falcons (3-0) this season, and they came through in a big way Wednesday night at Farmington Hills Ice Arena. Farmington scored the first five goals in its annual pre-Thanksgiving game with rival Farmington Hills Unified and coasted to an 8-2 victory. "We got goals from all three lines today," coach Bill Newton said. "At the start of the season, I thought our team was

very balanced, and I think it's beginning to show and pay dividends. "We can roll three, four lines consistently, and we're doing a good job. Our kids are really buying into the concept we're only going to go as far as our defense will take us. "They realize, if you play good defense in your zone, it's amazing how much offense you can generate from that if you're not chasing the puck in your own end. So far it's all good." The Falcons were on their way early when senior Cam Noseworthy took the first shot of the game 23 seconds into it and scored the first goal. Unified went on a power play a short time later and

even had a 5-on-3 advantage for 43 seconds, resulting in an early, 5-1 shots advantage for the Flyers, who failed to capitalize. Farmington followed with goals by senior Jason Petras (9:31), senior Joe Majoros (8:50), junior Colin Finn (6:50) and Petras again (4:32) to take a five-goal lead into the break. "Obviously, in a rivalry game, you have to come out hot," Petras said. "We've started the year 3-0 and scored first in every game, which is huge. We did the same thing tonight. "Cam started the night with a good goal, and we just built on that. We had the momentum the whole game and just never



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Farmington's Jason Petras scored two goals in the 8-2 win. Blake Maddalena of the Unified team is behind Petras.

See UNDEFEATED, Page B2

PREP BOYS HOCKEY

Wildcats grind out a victory



In pursuit of the puck are Canton's Matthew Eastman (No. 19) and Plymouth's Ricky Covault (No. 8).

MICHAEL VASILNEK

Plymouth scores twice in third to earn 3-1 victory over Canton

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

After two periods Wednesday night, Plymouth had a 19-9 edge in shots on goal and yet was stuck in a 1-1 tie with campus rival Canton at Arctic Edge Arena. But Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento reminded his players to keep grinding, to find a way. Thanks to a pair of dirty goals by senior forward Jake Silvester, Plymouth did just that, earning a 3-1 win over their KLAAs South Division rival. "I just told the boys things aren't always going to go your way," said Vento, recalling his message to the team between the second and third periods. "You're going to outwork teams and outchance them and be in tight games, but you got to find a way to fight through it. I like the way they responded in the third." The Wildcats certainly did, outshooting the Chiefs 15-2 in the frame and 34-11 for the contest to improve to 2-0. Canton dropped to 0-2. Plymouth peppered Canton senior goalie Isaac Salinas during a five-minute power play (the Chiefs received a major penalty for boarding) but had nothing to show for it until Silvester jammed in a loose puck with 47 seconds to go in the



Plymouth's Josh Weber (No. 26) chases the puck in front of Canton goalie Isaac Salinas. At right for the Chiefs is Daniel Bourgeois.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

penalty.

Don't stop

"There was a scrum in front of the net, and I saw the puck loose," said Silvester with a grin. "... I just pushed straight through and just hit the puck in. Just keep hammering" until the whistle sounds. Vento noted that Silvester is a blue-chip, blue-collar type of player.

"Most of Jake's goals this year are going to be ugly, that's the kind of player he is," Vento said. "He gets in tight on the crease, he bangs away, he takes the abuse. "If you're going to play in that area, in front of the crease like that, you've got to be willing to pay the price. And Jake is

See GRIND, Page B2

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Stevenson offensive stampede buries Churchill

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

After spotting Livonia Churchill an early 1-0 lead Wednesday night, Livonia Stevenson's hockey team poured on the offense like gravy on a mound of mashed potatoes. In the rivals' annual night-before-Thanksgiving showdown, with the Eddie Edgar Ice Arena stands packed with charged-up fans, the Spartans used a five-goal second period scoring barrage to power their 9-2 triumph. Stevenson improved to 1-1 while the Chargers dropped to 3-1. "We always look forward to this game a lot — night before Thanksgiving, cross-town rival, packed house," said Stevenson defenseman Zach Finzel, who contributed a goal and an assist while also playing a key role in neutralizing Churchill leading scorers Nolan Cioch and Josh Friend. "Once they scored the first goal, we had to stay up, not panic and keep the tempo." The Spartans managed to do all three, scoring five straight goals after Churchill's Tyler Haydu gave his team a 1-0 advantage 5:20 in when his back-handed shot from the left face-off circle eluded Stevenson goalie Cullen Barber's out-stretched glove.

See SHOWDOWN, Page B2



Stevenson players celebrate after Ben Kowalske's first-period goal.

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HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Patriots blank Eagles to gain fourth straight win

The Livonia Franklin boys hockey team went into the Thanksgiving break on a roll.

The Patriots improved to 4-0 overall with a 5-3 victory Wednesday night over host White Lake Lakeland in a game played at Lakeland Ice Arena.

Franklin opened the first period with three straight goals.

Chase Wallis opened the scoring from Brendan Whitney and Nik Salisbury fol-

"... We've been working hard the last month, and it's good to get a little time off. Hopefully, we come back ready to rock."

DENNIS GAGNON
Franklin varsity coach

lowed by Max McCrory's goal from Brendan Nutting

and Jack Engle. Trevor Lasaline then converted on a power play from Wallis with 3:36 left for a 3-0 lead.

But Travis Gragg got the Eagles (1-1-1) on the board with just 36 seconds left in the opening period to trim the deficit to 3-1.

Lakeland's Bryant Cohen then scored the next two goals in the second period, one on an unassisted short-handed effort just 42 seconds into the period and the

other off an assist from Blake Kocsis at 10:37 to make it 3-all.

But the Patriots took the lead for keeps getting a goal from Zack Nelson off an assist from Nutting with only 14 seconds left in the second.

Whitney then put it away off an assist from Wallis with 7:07 remaining in the third to give Franklin a two-goal cushion and the victory.

Franklin freshman net-minder Jake Penny, who

made 27 saves, recorded his fourth straight victory.

Brandon Pomerleau had 29 saves for the Eagles.

"We're so happy to win four in a row," Franklin coach Dennis Gagnon said. "Thanksgiving holiday - the boys have four days off. We've been working hard the last month, and it's good to get a little time off. Hopefully, we come back ready to rock."

SHOWDOWN

Continued from Page B1

Stevenson carried a 2-1 lead into the first intermission thanks to lamp-lighters from Ben Kowalske (from Adam Olsen and Alex Walkuski) and Shane Leonard's power-play goal that was assisted by Alec Allen.

Spartan junior forward Christian Nabozny hit the post with a hard slap shot nine minutes into the contest.

"We tried to get better as the game went on," Stevenson head coach David Mitchell said. "I liked the way we did the things we've been practicing on. I give credit to our guys for continuing to stick to the game plan and doing what we've been working on."

The Chargers emerged from the first intermission with fire in their eyes, throwing a flurry of shots at Barber three minutes into the period; however, the reigning "Dream Team" goalie was up to the challenge, keeping the net behind him clean with a series of instinctive saves.

Moments later, Barber was bolstered by strong defensive plays from sophomore Jake Beaune and Finzel, who extinguished a pair of dangerous break-aways by Friend and John Doyle.

Beginning with Finzel's goal from Nick Beers at the 10:56 mark, the Spartans put a head-lock on the contest when Leonard deposited a power-play goal off helpers from Adam Olson and Nate Sudek.

Following Leonard's goal, Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds called a time-out to help his team re-group.

Whatever Reynolds said



Churchill goalie Andrew Broyles turned away this close-range shot by Stevenson's Nate Sudek.

ED WRIGHT

sunk in as eight seconds after the face-off, John Doyle stole an attempted Stevenson clearing pass just inside the blue line and whistled a high, hard shot past Barber to bring the Chargers to within 4-2.

Stevenson closed out the period with a three-goal flurry - scoring on door-step tip-ins by Joe Alcantara (from Ko-

walske), Sam Judd (from Kyle Lynch) and Alex Siroky (from Alex Oquist) - to ramp its lead up to 7-2.

"Some nights the puck goes in and some nights it doesn't; tonight it was going in for us," Mitchell explained. "We put up 33 shots against Brother Rice the other night and only scored once. Tonight we

scored nine against a very good goal-tender. It's a funny game."

Barber was spectacular mid-way through the third period when he stoned Friend on a breakaway before thwarting a two-on-one break orchestrated by Nolan Cioch and Jordan Venegoni.

Stevenson extended its lead

to 9-2 with late goals from Alcantara and Oquist.

"We make sure that, as a team, we always play hard to the last second," Finzel said. "I thought we played well tonight. It's still early, so we're only going to get better."

ewright@hometownlife.com

UNDEFEATED

Continued from Page B1

let up."

Falcons' total tally

Noseworthy scored the last goal of the game and also had two. Sophomore Tanner Neill and freshman Eli Arnold scored one apiece.

Majoros and senior defenseman Jordan Hoke had three assists each, Noseworthy and sophomore Joe Carbone two. Finn, Neill and sophomore Carter Wells assisted on one goal apiece.

"Sometimes, kids get so excited and nervous getting ready for this game," Newton said. "I think we came out really well and got some good goals early and some confidence. For us, it was good because we're scoring goals."

All in the game

Newton played everybody and substituted regularly in the second period, which was more even despite the Falcons outshooting the Flyers, 16-8.

The only goal was by Unified senior Brandon Glasser until Majoros made it 6-1 with 20 seconds remaining.

"Every one of these kids comes to practice every day and works hard," Newton said. "It's rewarding for us as coaches when we can roll four lines and get all the defensemen involved, because it's the only way you get better."



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Farmington's Joe Majoros has the inside track on Brandon Glasser as they go for the puck.

"Tonight was a great opportunity for a lot of our freshmen to play in a great environment, and they're better players because they got to play. In that way, it was a great game for us."

More even period

Newton acknowledged the Falcons did some things differently such as not running their regular power play and eased off the gas pedal a bit.

Unified also looked better defensively and more assertive offensively in the second period.

"I thought it was a combination of both," Flyers coach Ken Anderson said. "A couple of our guys stepped up their intensity, and (the Falcons) lightened up whatever they did. It looked like we played better, but I'm not sure if that was the case."

"I think their goalie (Thomas Bacon) settled down after that (first period)," Newton said. "He made some good saves in the second period to keep the game under control. Give that young man credit."

'Superior team'

Senior Andrew Nathan scored the second goal for the Flyers (0-3). Sophomores Talon Brehmer and Blake Maddalena assisted on the Unified goals.

Junior goaltender Hunter Firestone played the first period for the Falcons and senior Tom Lockner the last two.

"We just lost to a superior team at this point," Anderson said. "They beat us in every phase of the game. (They were) faster, quicker, wanted it more."

"They're super disciplined and play hard to the whistle. They're on a roll right now. Hopefully, we can catch up a little bit by the end of the year."

"We're not even close to where we need to be, but that's why we practice. Hopefully, we can learn from this loss. We have to; we have no choice."

Age, training helps

Farmington's off-ice training, hard work between seasons and added maturity is largely responsible for its 3-0 start, according to Newton.

"I've got seven seniors," he said. "I've got seven men. It changes everything when you're big and strong and playing against maybe 10th and ninth graders. They're bigger, stronger, faster and it shows."

"We have a lot of veterans," Petras said. "This is my seventh Flyers game. We have to remind the guys it's a 0-0 game every time you step on the ice, and you have to play like that."

"You have to control the highs and lows. That's how you win big games like that, and that's what we did tonight."

Up North road trap

Petras added the Falcons will try to add two more victories to their record this weekend in the Traverse City Invitational.

"Like coach always says, 'It's going to be fun; it's going to be team-building, but it's a business trip.' We're going up there to win games, and that's how you have to keep going."

GRIND

Continued from Page B1

willing."

Silvester then iced the victory when he caromed a puck from the side of the net off the back of Salinas' leg.

Canton head coach Brad Barath lamented the major penalty, but thought the whistle could have been blown on the play before Silvester nudged the puck over the goal line.

"We were fired up 1-1 going into the third period," Barath said. "But the five-minute penalty put us behind the 8-ball."

"We did a good job killing

off four minutes and 30 seconds of it. But they banged in a goal that I thought the whistle should have been blown on. What are you going to do, it's hockey."

Plymouth got off to a quick 1-0 lead when sophomore forward Josh Weber buried a rebound, just 4:42 into the Thanksgiving Eve contest. Assisting on the tally were senior forward Alex Bump and sophomore forward Jack Chumley.

"Weber's been great," Vento said. "He was great in camp, he's been great since the start of the season. He's a smaller guy but he plays big, he's always around the puck. His feet

just never stop moving."

Still close

That slim lead held until the final stages of the middle frame, largely because of stellar netminding by Salinas.

The netminder made several timely stops to keep the Chiefs close, snagging a point shot by senior defenseman Zack Wiener and turning aside an in-close bid by junior blue-liner Zach Gallaher.

"He (Salinas) played very well," Barath said. "He's been in the program, he suffered injuries the over the last few years, hasn't really been able to play hockey because of it."

"He's healthy right now and

he's playing well. He's very confident with his game, it helps him."

There was a bit of good fortune too, as a blast taken by Plymouth junior defenseman Keaton Courtney hit the right post.

Canton then drew even at 1-all with 2:48 left when senior forward and captain Brian Oldani scored.

Senior center James Tucker rushed down the left wing and took a shot that Plymouth senior goalie Trevor McManus blocked. Crashing into the net-front area to chip the puck in was Oldani.

"They worked their butts off to get the puck in front of the

net and bang in a rebound," Barath said.

Unfortunately for the Chiefs, they could not get untracked during the final 17 minutes. Credit Plymouth's proactive, persistent play for that.

"With all the newcomers we have, it was a great game," Vento noted. "The Park games, the rivalry games are always tough to play. But you got to play them to figure it out. I thought they passed a pretty good test tonight."

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All-Observer boys have good times in cross country

Tony Floyd, Franklin: Floyd capped a spectacular career by qualifying for the third time for the Division 1 state meet, where he finished ninth overall, earning all-state honors.



He was the champion of the Livonia City Meet and the KLAAs Kensington Conference and was runner-up at the Wayne County Championships. In addition to placing third at his Division 1 regional, he won every dual meet and broke the school record with a time of 15:31.

"Tony is a very special runner," coach Pat Koelzer said. "His natural form makes him smooth and efficient. The longer the distance, the better he gets."

"I've had the honor of coaching him in either cross country or track since eighth grade. This season, he was very focused on his goal of being all-state and it helped him grow into a leader by example for the rest of the team."

"He is also a good student and his teammates really look up to him. Tony hopes to continue running in college and is starting to get attention from some Division I schools."

Chaz Jeffress, Salem: Consistently among the cream of the crop in Division 1, the senior capped off one of the best careers in school history with all-state honors for the second season in a row.



At Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Jeffress placed 16th with a time of 15:43.3 seconds, following his second-place finish the previous weekend at the D1 regional at Willow Metropark (15:33.2).

Jeffress, No. 1 in Salem boys cross country team history and owner of the program's freshman, junior and senior records, won the Wayne County Championship with a mark of 15:31, his best time of the season.

"It has been a joy to coach a special talent like Chaz for the past four years and he will be missed tremendously in the future," coach Steve Aspinall said. "He has been our top runner for the past three seasons and has been a contender to win every race he has entered for the past two years."

"Chaz is one of the toughest runners I have ever coached and his hatred of losing is second to none."

On Nov. 14, Jeffress qualified for the Mid-East Meet of Champions with a time of 15:58, placing third to earn a spot on Team Michigan.

Zac Clark, Canton: The junior really came into his own for the Chiefs in 2015, qualifying for the D1 state finals with his 16:22 performance at the regional — the fastest time for a Canton runner at that race.

The best was yet to come, as Boyd clocked 16:08 at the D1

2015 ALL OBSERVER BOYS CROSS COUNTRY FIRST TEAM

Franklin: Tony Floyd, sr., Chaz Jeffress, sr., Salem
Zac Clark, jr., Canton
James Weekley, sr., Harrison
Ethan Byrnes, soph., Plymouth
Nick Trevisan, soph., Farmington
Andrew Bambach, sr., Stevenson
Robert Irwin, soph., N. Farmington
Brandon Boyd, jr., Plymouth
Seth Windle, soph., Ply. Christian
Shane Andrews, soph., Canton

SECOND TEAM
Grant Rudd, soph., Franklin
Josh Mussen, jr., Churchill
Nathan Ward, jr., Stevenson
Alex Brauer, jr., Stevenson
Aaron Vicars, jr., Ply. Christian
Griffin Skaff, sr., Salem
Jacob Kubinski, sr., Salem
Nick Socha, jr., Canton
Owen Rowader, soph., Stevenson
Alex Kroll, jr., Salem
Ben Griffith, soph., Stevenson

CO-CHIEFS OF YEAR
Steve Aspinall, Salem
Charles Bridges, Farmington
Jeremy Auer, Farmington

HONORABLE MENTION
Churchill: Jon Hovermale, Clint Cowen, Delson Christian, Noah Hagood; Franklin: Matt Lepper, Logan Evanchuk, Mike Mackiewicz; Salem: Ryan Exell, Andrew Beyer, Luke Haran; Plymouth: Jarrett Warner, Lucas Kapala, Adam Stepek, Nate Schmidt; Canton: Zach Carey, Zach Cannon, Braden Heimbaugh, Daniel Jimenez; Stevenson: Nathan Wilson, Jacob Bieganski; Farmington: Maxx Merlino, Nick Johnson, Jonathon Pierce; Harrison: Dakota Kelly; North Farmington: Derek Abbott, Ryan Darnell; Plymouth Christian: Gareth Matson.

state final, which coach Bill Boyd said was the third fastest time in school history.



"Zac also holds the record for fastest Canton times at both the Wayne County Championship and the KLAAs Championship," Boyd said.

At the county meet, Clark placed fifth (16:23).

James Weekley, Harrison: Weekley qualified for his third consecutive state meet and finished 46th in Division 1 with a time of 16:08.



He was fifth in the Waterford regional (16:24) and was the city champion for the second year in a row, running 16:22 in early October at Oakland Community College.

"We've had some great runners, but no one has had the consistency James has had across the board," coach John Reed said.

"My goal for him as a coach has always been to see him run at the next level and I think he's going to do very well there. He still has a big upside to him."

Ethan Byrnes, Plymouth: Hard work between seasons paid big dividends for the sophomore, who ran a personal best of 16:06 — the ninth-fastest time posted in the state in D1.



That time also is seventh fastest in school history and No. 1 among Plymouth sophomores in program history.

Other accomplishments included finishing fourth at the county meet (16:11), ninth at the Kensington Conference meet (16:23) and 10th at the regional with a time of 16:13.

At MIS in Brooklyn, his time

of 16:16.4 was good for 65th overall.

"Ethan ran a lot of miles over the summer and it paid off," coach Jon Mikosz said. "He had a great season and is only a sophomore. He has the potential to be one of the best runners in school history by the time he is done."

"He is a very coachable runner that is extremely determined, which is a great combination."

Nick Trevisan, Farmington: After breaking 20 minutes once as a freshman, Trevisan had an outstanding sophomore season in which he finished 77th at the Division 1 state meet (16:23).



He ran a career best of 16:13 at the Waterford regional and qualified for states in 11th place. He was all-OAA White Division and all-Oakland County, too.

Trevisan is a 4.0 student and was named to the academic all-state team.

"Nick had a strong track season and continued to work hard this summer," co-coach Jeremy Auer said. "His hard work and dedication paid off, running a PR by nearly three minutes and winning our first jamboree in 17:06."

"Nick is always looking to improve; he never settles. He brings the same intensity to every practice that he does his races."

"That will ensure ongoing improvement as we look for all-state performances from Nick in the future."

Robert Irwin, N. Farmington: A sophomore, Irwin finished second in the city meet (16:30) at OCC for the second year in a row and was the runner-up in the OAA White Division at 16:35.



He also placed third (17:10) in the Huron Invite, fourth (16:47) in the Linden Invite and 25th (16:47) in the Oakland County meet.

Days before the regional, Irwin sustained a back injury and was unable to complete the Division 1 race at Hess Hathaway Park.

"It was unfortunate, because Robert was showing a lot of improvement in the latter part of the season," coach Paul Welch said, adding Irwin still had a terrific sophomore season.

"Robert's hard work and dedication provided the framework that enabled him to improve throughout the season and compete with the best in the area."

Brandon Boyd, Plymouth: The future is pretty bright for the Wildcats, with three more seasons with Boyd in the lineup.

As a freshman, he posted the state's seventh-fastest time for a D1 runner with his per-

sonal best of 16:39. That broke the previous record for a Plymouth ninth-grader, held by Byrnes.



At the Wayne County Championship, Boyd placed 18th with a time of 16:57 and took 25th at the Kensington Conference meet with a time of 17:06. Then at the regional, his mark of 16:39 was 22nd best.

"He has a lot of potential," Mikosz said. "He ran some amazing times for just being a freshman. Once he gets more races under his belt, he could be one of the top guys in the area."

"He is an all-around good guy and a hard worker at practice."

Seth Windle, Ply. Christian: Small in stature but big in talent, the sophomore finished 26th in Division 4 (16:58.7) to earn all-state honors and also was a key part of an Eagles team that came in 11th in the team standings.



Windle set the PCA record with a time of 16:56 at the Wayne County Championships, then ran 16:28 at the Michigan Independent Athletics Conference meet to shatter his own mark.

He was MIAC MVP, having earned medalist honors at all three conference races. "His goal was to be on the podium at the state finals," coach Jennifer Lemieux said. "He got up every morning during the summer to run. We had a plan and he worked hard for the honor to be all-state."

"I am extremely proud of him. His motivation is to run for God's glory and he does this extremely well."

Shane Andrews, Canton: This was a year of progress for the Chiefs and the sophomore's growth as a runner throughout the season is a key reason.



Andrews set his personal mark of 16:39 at the Wayne County Championship, making him one of the program's fastest sophomores ever.

"Shane's 16:39 is his career best and he is only a sophomore, so that's exciting right there," Boyd said.

The 10th-grader also set the school record for fastest time at the Mustang Invitational and currently sits as the 20th fastest runner in program history.

At the conference meet, Andrews finished 16th (16:41) and followed that up at the D1 regional with a time of 17:02 (34th place).

Coaches of the Year

Steve Aspinall, Salem: The KLAAs covers a part of the state that veteran coach Aspinall describes as "a hotbed of solid cross country runners and teams."

And the Rocks have been

one of the better teams in recent seasons, led by one of the state's premier runners in senior Chaz Jeffress. At the helm is the *Observer's* co-coach of the year.



Aspinall would rather not take credit for any of those successes, however, praising his athletes and assistant coach Geoff Baker (who just completed his 30th season with the Salem cross country program).

"The 2015 cross country season was successful because of the hard work and dedication put forth by the athletes going back to June," Aspinall said. "These guys decided they wanted to be good and put forth the work to back it up."

"The seniors provided great leadership and assistance throughout the season and they will be missed next year."

Salem, in the always-tough KLAAs Central Division, went 3-2 in dual meets to finish third behind Northville and Novi. Those were the top three teams at the conference meet and the Rocks went on to finish fourth at the D1 regional, just missing on a spot at MIS in Brooklyn.

"I am proud to be the coach of a team with such a rich tradition of success," Aspinall said.

Charles Bridges/Jeremy Auer, Farmington

What made the season so successful for the Falcons was how far the program progressed in just two years.



Farmington didn't have enough runners to field a full team or post a team score in 2013 and it struggled to get back on its feet in 2014.



With the same team as last year, the Falcons reclaimed the city championship, finished a close third in the OAA White Division and were seventh at the Willow Metropark regional.

"Seeing the boys begin to have success is very gratifying," Bridges said. "We have worked very hard the past three years to get the boys team back to being a solid competitive team."

"We were able to do that this year and the foundation is in place to be very successful over the next few years. We were pleased with the 2015 season and are very excited about our future."

"This year was a huge step for our program," Auer said. "No one but us gave us any chance to be competitive this year. The running culture at Farmington has come a long way in the last 12 months."

"If the commitment and dedication continue on this path, we will be extremely tough for years to come."

History-making trip for Schoolcraft College cagers

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College's basketball teams had a successful trip to Toledo, Ohio.

The men's team cruised Saturday to a lopsided 117-83 victory over host Owens Community College.

More notably, the Lady Ocelots defeated Owens 66-59 — snapping a 47-game regular season home winning streak for the Express.

In the men's contest, Schoolcraft connected on more than 61 percent from the floor, with guard JaChristian Biles lead-

ing the way with 32 points (8-of-13 from behind the 3-point line).

Canton alum Davon Taylor had a strong game at forward, with 16 points and seven rebounds.

Also in double figures was guard Dre Black of Westland John Glenn and R.J. Coil, with 13 and 11 points, respectively. Coil also led Schoolcraft (6-0) with 11 rebounds.

Schoolcraft enjoyed a 55-44 halftime lead and then turned the game into a laughter following intermission with a 62-39 edge in the second half against the Express (3-5).



Lady Ocelots prevail

In the Schoolcraft-Owens

women's contest, the Lady Ocelots had to rebound from a sluggish start (trailing 29-7 after one quarter) en route to their victory.

Schoolcraft (5-0) still faced an uphill battle at halftime, trailing 39-23 thanks to poor field-goal shooting (6-of-29, 20.7 percent).

When the shots started to fall in the second half (14-of-37, 37.8 percent) things turned around for the Lady Ocelots. Owens led 48-42 going into the fourth and that's when Schoolcraft took over with a 24-11 onslaught.

Leading the way for the

visitors was guard T'era Nesbitt, with 28 points and 10 rebounds.

Other key contributors were Rainy McCune (11 points), Phoenix Douthat (nine points), Rikki Scherdt (a team-high 14 rebounds) and Salem alum Jamyra Wilson (seven points, four rebounds, four steals).

Scoring 16 points each for Owens (6-3) were Jeryn Reese and Lakyn Gulley.

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Falcon chooses WMU

Southfield High School senior Matt Falcon is headed to Western Michigan University to play football.

The talented but hard-luck running back had committed to the University of Michigan in the middle of his junior year.



Falcon, who missed time as a junior with an injury, had been eagerly pursued by new U-M head coach Jim Harbaugh and Wolverines running backs coach Tyrone Wheatley.

However, just prior to his senior season, Falcon suffered a season-ending knee injury. He is expected to fully recover, but Harbaugh and the Wolverines decided to back away from Falcon's commitment.

The Wolverines offered Falcon a medical scholarship, meaning he could attend Michigan but not play football. Falcon wants to resume his football career.

Because of the difference of opinion, Falcon elected to de-commit from Michigan and recently decided to attend Western Michigan.

Despite interest from other schools like Northwestern, Purdue, Wisconsin, Toledo and Central Michigan, Falcon

chose to play with the Broncos next fall.

"Matt has been getting positive medical feedback all along that he will have a full recovery from his injury and will be able to play football at a high level in the future," Southfield head coach Tim Conley said.

"Western Michigan provided the best timetable for rehab, opportunity for playing and standard of academics out of all the other schools that were recruiting him."

"Matt is an extremely hard worker on the football field, and that will continue through his rehab. He is also a college-ready student, so I am expecting him to do great things in

Kalamazoo."

Golfer gets hole-in-one

John Cast, 62, of Belleville used a pitching wedge Nov. 16 to ace the 112-yard No. 6 hole on the Hills Course at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth.

WSU baseball camp

The Wayne State University Baseball Camp will be Saturday, Dec. 5, and will feature former Detroit Tigers Alan Trammell and Lance Parrish.

The sixth annual camp is for players in grades 2-12 and will take place in two sessions. Session 1 is 9-30 a.m. to noon and will concentrate on infield and outfield play, plus

hitting. Session II runs 1:30-4 p.m. and will focus on pitching, catching and hitting.

Each session will have a \$100 fee. For more information, go to wsuathletics.com.

LTU volleyball tryout

Lawrence Tech University women's volleyball is having an open tryout for any 2016 seniors or 2017 juniors interested in playing at LTU in fall 2016.

The tryout session is scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at LTU's Don Ridler Fieldhouse (21000 10 Mile Road, Southfield).

Any questions should be directed to Lwyatt@ltu.edu or 313-977-0404.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



MARTY BUDNER

Bloomfield Township resident and United Shore Professional Baseball League chairman and CEO Andrew Appleby stands in front of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers banner unveiled Monday at a ceremony in Utica.

Play ball! Appleby beams about new business venture

Marty Budner
Staff Writer

It was cold and snowing lightly early Monday afternoon in Utica.

Inside Eppler Junior High School's Media Center, if you looked out the windows in the distance through the flakes and between the trees, you could see the skeleton of a baseball stadium.

Bloomfield Township resident Andrew Appleby proudly pointed to the rapidly rising Jimmy John's Field — a \$12 million state-of-the-art facility he's privately funded — and conjured up warm images of a unique brand of independent minor league baseball he will bring to the Detroit area starting this spring. Jimmy John's Field is just a fungo hit away from Eppler's athletic complex, located behind the school.

At Monday's press conference, Appleby, the clean-up speaker among a lineup of local dignitaries that included Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, explained the motivation behind his newly-formed United Shore Professional Baseball League, which will run from late May through mid-September.

"There are a lot of reasons for creating this league," said Appleby, chairman and CEO of General Sports and Entertainment, LLC, based out of Rochester. "We want to be part of an entertainment facility to provide baseball in the very best weather that we can."

"In addition to that, we wanted to create a finishing school to bring to this league — which is a take-off on our soccer team in England — and to our knowledge we're the first league which has ever done it. We're looking to try and get every kid to the major leagues."

"Now, we know we won't. But we know we'll get someone to the major leagues some-

day because we are trying to make every kid better," he added. "This is sort of an eight-year overnight success story. So it has taken a long time to work on it."

Birmingham represented

Later, Appleby and the other assembled dignitaries darted to the school gymnasium, where the three charter teams' mascots and logos were unveiled in a jazzed up pep rally in front of the school's screaming student body. The entertaining ceremony came replete with loud music, T-shirt and mini-baseball giveaways and colorful light displays.

The Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers will be one of the three teams to compete in the inaugural USPBL season. The lone Oakland County squad, the Beavers were conceived to be the crosstown rival of the league's two home teams — the Utica Unicorns and Eastside Diamond Hoppers.

The Beavers will feature blue, red and gold uniforms and the mascot will be Buzz the Beaver. The Unicorns will wear red, white and purple uniforms, while the Hoppers will be outfitted in orange and green.

"All three teams will play out of (Jimmy John's Field). But we needed a team that maybe created a little bit of a rivalry and that's why we created Birmingham-Bloomfield," Appleby said. "In the future, we hope to have a home for Birmingham-Bloomfield."

Fan-friendly stadium

Appleby said the USPBL plans to throw its first pitch on Memorial Day next year. All games will be played at Jimmy John's Field, on Auburn Road a half-mile west of Van Dyke in Utica. The field and its four 50-foot towers will be easily

seen from M-59, which cuts through the heart of downtown in the 198-year old city of Utica.

The fan-friendly stadium will have 2,000 grandstand seats, in addition to hill sitting in the outfield and upscale suite accommodations. Ticket prices will range from \$6 to \$20 for a 75-game schedule.

Besides baseball, Appleby envisions hosting high school baseball games, high school and college hockey games, community activities and possibly concerts.

"We chose Utica for the baseball stadium because of the sense of community," Appleby said. "We understand what a major venue like a baseball park means to a community and we're thrilled by the welcome we've received here (in Utica)."

"I think this ballpark will be one of the finest in America. It's pretty much every good idea that I've ever seen over the years in design and marketing. It's pretty unique that it's coming to this community."

"I couldn't necessarily do this everywhere, but here, where I had all my relationships, made this a little bit easier," he added. "It takes a while to get something like this off the ground."

Appleby, whose son graduated from Bloomfield Hills High School and who currently has children at Detroit Country Day, is thrilled to finally have the USPBL on the cusp of its first pitch.

"It's terribly exciting. Minor league baseball around the country is a phenomenon; we've just never had it here," Appleby said. "I'm looking forward to not just bringing baseball here for the first time, but because it's right near my home and my office. We've owned teams in Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Darby, England. Now I'm looking forward to having something just down the street."

Manager, coach, player? The USPBL wants you

Marty Budner
Staff Writer

If you've ever dreamed of managing or coaching a minor league baseball team, now's your chance.

The Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers are one of three teams that will compete in the United Shore Professional Baseball League, based out of Utica in Macomb County. The two other teams are the Utica Unicorns and Eastside Diamond Hoppers.

The independent league's commissioner and president — Bloomfield Township resident Andrew Appleby — formally announced the USPBL's three charter teams at a press conference Monday inside the media center of the Utica Community Schools' Eppler Junior High School.

Now that the team names are in place, Appleby and the USPBL's executive director of baseball operations Brian Berryman are in the process of looking for general managers and coaches for each team.

Berryman, a 1995 Redford Union High School graduate who played college baseball at Michigan, said the search is on and all qualified applicants will be considered, for every position from manger to coach to player.

"We're looking at all the resumes and I'm reaching out to all my baseball contacts from a college standpoint," said Berryman, a Bloomfield Township resident. "We actually had a former major league pitching coach come in who lives locally who is very interested. I've met with him three or four times."

"It's amazing the amount of interest we're getting without a lot of publicity," he added. "This is the first major marketing event we've done, so I'm sure we'll have a lot of interest."

Positions available

The plan is to start filling positions soon after the new year begins.

"We're going to have one manager and one assistant manager for each team and we want all of those in place by January or February," Berryman said. "So, when March, April and May come around, when you get the minor league guys being released and the college guys graduating, you're going to have an influx of players."

"So we want to be able to have our tryouts and have our coaches available, along with the scouts, so we can obviously



Berryman

have a great evaluation process for all the players," he added. "So we're looking to start the whole process right after the new year."

The two USPBL administrators indicated the dream is to make the USPBL a "developmental" league to attract the most talented young players available, including those who may have just missed out on being drafted by a Major League Baseball team.

Officials figure a talent-pool of 66 players will fill out the three rosters, with tryouts in May and a targeted opening day by Memorial Day. The league will consist of primarily college-aged players, who will be paid a nominal fee and offered business internships.

College-age players

"The league will consist of players who just graduated from college who just barely didn't get drafted," said Andrew Appleby, former owner of the Ft. Wayne Wizards minor league franchise. "So it might mean the .280 hitting catcher at USC or Vanderbilt who just barely didn't get drafted, yet still feels he might make the major leagues someday and might need a little more coaching or a little bit of extra help, whether that be extra conditioning or sabermetrics."

"We've got a whole finishing school planned to make each and every one of these kids better. Most other leagues that they might be drafted into, they might just be there to play the games. In our league, we need them to play the games, too, don't get me wrong. But we're trying to make every kid better."

"We just want to grab all the kids we can who were on the cusp of just making it or not making it," he added. "And we also think those kids might have a little bit of a chip on their shoulders and really want to get to the next level."

Berryman concurred that, in addition to family entertainment, the USPBL's role is to develop major league talent.

"We want to hire the best teachers of the game so we can get these kids to the next level as quickly as possible," Berryman said. "That's our goal and it's just going to take some time. Between myself and the managers of the teams, we are going to do our due diligence and make the right selections."



MARTY BUDNER

The three-team USPBL, designed for college players who may have just missed being drafted by major league teams, will include some 65 players who will play a 75-game season.

BOYS HOCKEY

Shamrocks beat Brother Rice with late goals, 3-1

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

The Catholic Central-Brother Rice hockey rivalry had all the Thanksgiving eve trimmings and more Wednesday night at USA Hockey Arena.

The battle between state champions did not disappoint as the host Shamrocks, the defending MHSAA Division 1 champs, got a late goal from senior JoJo Mancinelli, followed by Brian Kearns' empty-netter in the waning seconds, to upend the defending Division 2 champion Warriors, 3-1.

CC, which improved to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the North Division of the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League, scored the game-winner with only 3:27 remaining on a power play to break a 1-1 deadlock just 11 seconds after Rice's Jack Clement was sent to the penalty box for an inadvertent high stick.

Catholic Central's Kyle Mulka then won the face-off to set up Mancinelli's game-winner. Nick Macari and Luc Krasicky got credit for assists.

"I think there was a scrum in the middle, we got the puck

high, did a little criss-cross up top, (Luc) Krasicky pulled the 'D' over, passed it right back to me and I had a clear lane to shoot the puck and just got it to the net," Mancinelli said. "I saw it the whole way."

Getting pucks to the net was the main focus late in the game, according to CC coach Brandon Kaleniecki.

"We win the draw, we get possession of it, move it around the top and a net-front guy, Macari did a great job in front of the net and JoJo (Mancinelli) puts it on net and there you go," the first-year coach said. "The goalie (Daniel Sendek) couldn't see it. That's how you score in tight games."

The loss dropped the Warriors to 2-1 overall and 0-1 in the MIHL North.

"I think we just ran out of a little bit of steam towards that third period," Rice coach Lou Schmidt said. "And, of course, we took that fluky penalty. Our defenseman turned around and hit their guy in the head with his stick.



Mancinelli

It was an accident and, the next thing, you're on a penalty kill with three minutes left. They win the face-off and it's in the net."

The Shamrocks were on their heels during the opening period. But despite being outshot 9-4, they took a 1-0 advantage into the first intermission after sophomore Kam Ottenbreit went top shelf into the upper left corner, with Jared Lee and Cody Borke drawing assists, with 4:33 left in the period.

"(Rice) came out in the first period and kind of took it to us," Kaleniecki said. "I thought we adjusted well in the second and the third and kind of turned it around. The first period, we end up 1-0 when we really didn't deserve to be. Our goalie (Alec Calvaruso) played really well. We made one nice play at the end and we got out of there with a 1-0 lead when we really didn't deserve that, I think."

Rice tied it 1-1 with 11:44 remaining in the second period, as Mitch Schultz intercepted a pass just outside his own blue line along the boards and streaked in unassisted to beat Calvaruso.

"I felt like we carried the play in the second period and the one they took advantage of the turnover on ours and it ends up in the back of our net," Kaleniecki said. "That's what happens when you play good hockey teams. You can give them one chance and it can go the other way. The third period, I thought, was a very even period. I thought at times we were controlling the play and at times they were. That's what you expect in a rivalry game like that."

Calvaruso, who finished with 16 saves, made big back-to-back stops with just under five minutes remaining against Rice's Garrett Moore to keep it deadlocked.

"I think the game kind of boiled down to a goalie contest," Schmidt said. "I thought both guys played outstanding. Their guy made some great saves when he had to and, of course, Danny Sendek, I think, stood on his head."

And once CC got the lead, Rice was forced to pull Sendek (19 saves) for an extra attacker with just over a minute to play.

During a timeout, the Shamrocks went over their defen-

sive assignments.

"That's the nitty-gritty time, when you just have to make sure on everything," Kaleniecki said. "We weren't designing any specific face-off play. We were just making sure where we needed to be."

The two teams will meet again Wednesday, Jan. 20, at Oak Park Arena.

"I know when we go there in a couple of months, it will be another fun hockey game," Kaleniecki said. "They're a good hockey team. That's the fun part of this league (MIHL) we're playing in. It's going to be like that."

"We turn around from (Thanksgiving) break and play Trenton and Orchard Lake (St. Mary's) twice. Probably going to be very similar hockey games. I'm going to get older every day."

Meanwhile, Schmidt is looking forward to the second encounter with the Shamrocks, as well.

"Again, I'm proud of the kids," he said. "I thought they played really, really hard. I thought it was two good teams out there today. We're going to have another battle with them later in the season."

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

James and Elizabeth (Miller) Cook of Westland marked their 60th wedding anniversary Nov. 19. The couple married in 1955 in Detroit. Their children are Timothy (Theresa), Kimberlee, and Caleb (Brenda). They have four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The couple met in the summer of 1955 while working as counselors at Clear Lake Camp, and married that fall. They

shared a love of family, an appreciation of nature and a passion for civil rights. In the early years of their marriage James and Elizabeth volunteered as court watchers in downtown Detroit, marched for equality with Focus Hope, and were avid followers of the local Westland political scene. James dedicated his career to helping kids by working in the public schools, first in Plymouth and then Livonia as a teacher, a counselor, and finally a middle school

administrator. He has been retired for 23 years. Elizabeth committed the first 16 years of marriage to staying home and raising their children, and then returned to school and the workforce for a second career as a labor and delivery nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor. She still receives Christmas cards from the parents of babies she helped deliver, now grown and starting families of their own. The Cooks are spending their retirement years at their home in

Westland, and their summer cabin near Traverse City, where they spend time enjoying family and friends. They continue to support their community by remaining politically active, volunteering in organizations that help folks get back on their feet, and conserving the natural beauty of the state. They also enjoy cheering on the Detroit Tigers. They celebrated their anniversary at an open house with family and friends.



James and Elizabeth Cook of Westland

SUBMITTED

ENGAGEMENT

FOLLBAUM-CULLEN

Allison Follbaum and Michael Cullen announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Michele Follbaum of Livonia, graduated in 2009 from Clonlara High School and in 2013 from Madonna University, with a BA in journalism and public relations. She works as the social media

coordinator for The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools. Her fiancé, son of Michael and Merri Cullen of Northville, is a 2006 graduate of Northville High and a 2010 graduate of The Citadel with a BA in history. He works for the federal government. A June 2016 wedding is planned in Detroit.



Allison Follbaum and Michael Cullen

SUBMITTED

Clowning sets tone for parade, Hob Nobble Gobble

Eric Larson wasn't clowning around when he came up with the perfect gift for his mother's 80th birthday — a spot in the exclusive Distinguished Clowns Corps (DCC) of the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation.

On Thanksgiving Day morning, three generations of Larsons walked along Woodward and the M-1

construction route in the 89th Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade: Ann Robertson, Eric's mother; Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation Chair Eric Larson and his wife, Kathy, and their daughters Paige and Makenzie of Bloomfield Hills. "It was a very meaningful gift," said Robertson at the 29th Annual Hob Nobble Gobble at Ford Field. "The Michigan Parade is so family oriented and generational, that to be a part of what my family has been involved in for so many years is all the more meaningful."

The Hob Nobble Gobble celebrated its 26th Anniversary last week. The sold-out black-tie gala at Ford Field brought in over 2,500 adults and kids and raised \$400,000.

"I love the Parade and making people happy," said Robertson, who used to go to nursing homes to



Sisters Madysin Wilson, 9, (left) and McKenzie Wilson, 8, of Canton have fun at Hob Nobble Gobble.



Joe Michael of Group 10 Management in Farmington Hills, wears a colorful hat at Hob Nobble Gobble.

entertain the residents as "Jubilee the Clown" when she was younger. "It's all a part of the tradition in Detroit which makes it very special."

Contact Julie Yolles at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or leave a message at 248-642-9465.



Cheryl "Gracie" Woodard of Detroit (left) and Sherrie "Smiggins" Chrysler of Redford, clown around with Claire Swayze of Bloomfield Hills at Hob Nobble Gobble at Ford Field.

JULIE YOLLES

Passages
Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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ANULEWICZ, CAROLYN L.
Born August 19, 1941, passed away peacefully on November 22, 2015, after a courageous battle with cancer. Long-time and faithful companion for nearly 20 years to Sam Messina. Former wife to James D. Anulewicz. Dear mother of Jeffrey (Jill) Anulewicz, Trevor (Andrea) Anulewicz, and Brandon (Francesca) Anulewicz. Proud grandmother of Reese, Ellie, Nora, Vito, Thomas, and Sawyer. Caring sister of Gerald Becker. Carolyn lived her life with grace, dignity, love and an inner strength that shone through in everything she did. Having earned a Bachelors Degree from Michigan State University, as well as Masters Degrees from both Eastern Michigan and Wayne State Universities, her lifelong passion for education and mentorship extended well beyond herself and her family. She touched uncountable lives through her work in the Plymouth-Canton School District, first as a teacher and later as Vice-Principal of Salem High School. She encouraged all those that she came into contact with to push themselves beyond their limits, achieve their goals and to be their best selves, a philosophy that will continue on, on her behalf through her beloved family. She will be dearly missed, but always remembered, by her family, friends and students. The visitation was Tuesday at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth (Between Sheldon and Beck). The Funeral Mass was Wednesday at St. Kenneth Church, 14951 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth. Memorial donations may be made to Educational Excellence Foundation. To share a memory please visit www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com



BERRY, THOMAS H.
Born August 19, 1941, passed away Wednesday, November 18, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Judith A. Berry; his three daughters Barbara, Nancy and Beverly; his four granddaughters, Megan, Heidi, Laura and Lindsay; and his mother, Dorothy Berry-Fifield. Thomas retired from Livonia Public Schools as a Vocational Building Trades Instructor. He also is a retired painter, realtor and shooting instructor. As a lifetime NRA member Tom enjoyed gun collecting, target shooting, hunting, fishing and watching wildlife from his back windows. His priority was spending time with family and friends and making people laugh. He will be missed by all who knew him. Funeral services December 29th at St. Joseph Catholic Church in South Lyon, MI at 11 am. Donations can be made to Michigan Humane Society in lieu of flowers.



HEITSCH, ELAINE "TRIXIE"
Surrounded by her family, Elaine "Trixie" Darden Heitsch passed on November 24, twenty-seven days before her 82nd birthday. A very recent diagnosis with a rare disease, "amyloidosis" took her far too quickly. She leaves behind her husband of 59+ years, Lawrence "Larry" Heitsch and three daughters, Bonnie Heitsch (Brian Reeder), Cindy Corrigan (John) and Nancy Blose (Bill) and seven grandchildren, all of whom she was immensely proud. Words cannot describe the void felt by Trixie's departure. Trixie attended St. Hugo's grade school, Kingswood School Cranbrook (1952) and Michigan State University (1956). She served as a dedicated Real Estate agent for 30-years and had just earned her certification as an official docent at Cranbrook House where personal memories enhanced the history for all. She loved the Cranbrook community. Trixie was a strong, vital force and full of life. She loved all sports and was a competitive athlete; formidable on the tennis court, paddle court, softball field and swimming pool. She was an avid sports fan and always cheered for her favorite team- The Michigan State Spartans. (She was thrilled with the outcome of MSU vs Michigan this fall!) She carefully followed March Madness and infuriated many when she won a big pool last year! But most of all, Trixie loved her friends, family and life. She maintained life-long friends who supported her during her final journey. She adored her grandchildren and was a fun-loving and playful "Gigi" who delighted in competitive board games and rounds of miniature golf. She had a special connection with each of them (Anne Reeder, Alex Reeder, Katie Reeder, Kelly Blose, Kurt Blose, Jack Corrigan, Patrick Corrigan). Funeral service was held Saturday at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), Royal Oak 248-549-0500. In lieu of flowers, please consider the following organizations which have been a significant part of her life: Craig Hospital Foundation or Cranbrook Educational Community. Share memories at AJDesmond.com



SCHULTZ, MATILDA "TILLIE"
Age 92, of Sarasota, Florida, formerly a longtime resident of Plymouth, Michigan passed away peacefully November 14, 2015. She was born January 19, 1923 in Detroit, Michigan, daughter of Julius and Sophie (nee Huegel) Saner. She graduated from Plymouth High School, class of 1941. Tillie was united in marriage to Roy Schultz on July 28, 1945, they spent 51 loving years together until his death on August 13, 1996. Tillie, a homemaker, was not just a Farmer's wife she was a pivotal part of the day-to-day operations of The Roy Schultz Farm which was a U-Pick farm in Canton. She was a 4-H Leader in Wayne County and a member of the Farm Bureau Organization. She gave back to her wonderful community by serving on the Beautification Committee of Canton, serving as President of the Canton Historical Society, and through her membership in the Canton Rotary Club. Tillie was named Canton Woman of the Year in the early 1990's because of her dedication. She was a member of the MSU Home Extension Group-HOUGH group and a member of the Red Hats Society, where she served as Queen Mother. Tillie loved to travel and was a member of the Drat Pack Camping Club. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Tillie is survived by her loving daughters, Ileen (Richard) Davis, Amy Woodring, Sue (Gary) Gates, and Lou Ann Schultz; her siblings, Madeline (Avery) Penney, and Shirley (Zenonas "Chuck") Brokas; 12 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; her daughter, Linda L. Schultz; her sisters, Sophie Balko and Emily Casterline; and her brother, Julius Saner. The visitation will be held Friday, December 4, 2015 from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A Funeral service will be held Saturday, December 5, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. Mrs. Schultz will be laid to rest next to her husband at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate memorial contributions to Canton Historical Society, P.O. Box 87362, Canton, MI 48187 or Rotary Club of Canton Foundation, P.O. Box 87991, Canton, MI 48187. Share online condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com



FAHEY, BEULAH E.
November 21, 2015 age 103 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late George Corn and the late William Fahey. Dear father of Sandra (Budd) Blume, Patricia (Kenneth) Monroe, Kathleen (Jim) Huston and Bill Fahey. Also survived by 11 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren. Instate Friday 9 am at Fair Haven Baptist Church 34850 Marquette, Westland until service time of 10 am. Family will receive friends Thursday 12-9 pm at the Uht Funeral Home 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com



GAME, ALICE
November 18, 2015, age 98. Beloved wife of the late Cameron "Jack". Mother of Michael. Friend to many. She enjoyed golf, boating and all sports. Among the first occupants of Orange Lawn Homes, Livonia. Residents enjoyed, were their homes in Florida and Lake Chemung. The Game's touched many lives. Memorial service will be at a later date.



HAAS, CATHERINE E.
Age 79, November 24, 2015. Beloved wife of Ronald Haas. Loving mother of Susan (Tom) Murray and Carol (John) Reilly. Cherished grandmother of Annalisa, Michael, Marissa, Mark, David, and Jackie. Dear sister of Barbara (the late Bob) McDonald and Norma (George) Siegfried. Services have been held. Memorials appreciated to Cornerstone Schools or Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. Obituary and condolences at lynchfuneraldirectors.com



JUDGE, JOHN MICHAEL SMITH, ROBERT GEORGE
Age 55. Passed away on November 24, 2015 after a brave and courageous battle with Huntington's Disease. A devoted and compassionate husband of Diane. Wonderful son and friend to Michael and Nancy. Kind and caring brother of Bryan (Ann). Fun and silly uncle to Abby and Alex. John was predeceased by his sister, Christine. John's friends and family were the light of his life and he often was described as kind, loving, gentle, funny, giving, thoughtful, and an amazing man. We are all better people for having known him. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152, 734-591-3700, www.harrywillfuneralhome.com. Visitation will be from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. with a service from 4 p.m.-5 p.m. A dinner celebration will follow the service.



Passed away on November 16, 2015 at the age of 91. He was born March 24, 1924 to Willard and Louise Smith. He was married to the late Norma Smith for 52 years. Robert is survived by children Barbara James, Douglas Smith, Deborah Jones, Kathleen Dunham and Patricia Worsham; eight grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren. He is predeceased by his parents, his sister Elizabeth Sprunk and by his caring, beautiful and patient wife, Norma Smith. After serving in the Army in WWII, he graduated from the University of Detroit and began a lifelong career in marketing and advertising. He retired from Leo Burnett as an account executive. After retirement, he formed his own marketing firm. Robert was active in politics, a member of Kiwanis and gave many hours as a SCORE volunteer. He and wife Norma were avid golfers. Memorial donations may be made to the ALS Society in memory of Norma Smith. Robert donated his body to U of M Medical School. At his request, no service will be held. Visit Robert's tribute page at www.mattsfuneralhome.com

TRUEBLOOD, LORETTA
Age 77 of Owosso, November 22, 2015. Services were held. www.watkinsfuneralhome.com





Fighting over the spelling bee trophy are Daniel Murry (back left), Jordan Gagnon, Yakob Engel, Mackenzie MacIlroy (front left), Lloyd Platis, and Lindsey Brenz.

JAN CARTWRIGHT

Farmington Players enlists mayor, celebrities for show

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Farmington Hills Mayor Ken Massey will put his spelling skills to the test next month on the Farmington Players stage.

He'll join the cast of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* as a guest speller at the matinee on Dec. 12.

"If they throw cardiopulmonary resuscitation at me I can spell that," Massey said, with a laugh. He holds a Ph.D. in cardiovascular pathophysiology and can spell lots of tongue-twisting health and science terms. "I remember my uncle asking me, while I was doing my doctoral work, did you have to know how to spell all those words?"

"There are some words I'll do well at and others I appreciate the fact that (Microsoft) Word does it for me."

Massey's only other stage experience was the lead role in *Santa Claus for President* while in third grade at Longacre Elementary School in Farmington.

No acting skills are required of guest spellers, according to Amy Lauter, who is directing the musical comedy.

"It's strictly ad lib. There are always four people from the audience who get called up to the stage. They sit amongst the rest of the cast on the bleachers and they get called into the show randomly throughout the show,"



Farmington Hills Mayor Ken Massey will be a guest speller.



Yakob Engel of Farmington Hills portrays William Barfee in both casts.



Lloyd Platis of Canton is Leaf Coneybear in "Spelling Bee."



Jordan Gagnon of Farmington Hills will portray Marcy Park.

Lauter said. "There are easy words and difficult words. They are encouraged to try to spell their words correctly."

Local celebrity guest spellers are Greg Bowman and Brooke Allen of WWJ radio on opening night, Dec. 4; Steve Koponen, a Dunckel Middle School teacher, Dec. 5; Roger Weber, retired WDIV reporter, Dec. 11; Massey, Dec. 12; Roop Raj of WJBK Fox 2 news, Dec. 18; and radio personality Allyson Martinek, Dec. 12 and 19.

Guest spellers remain on stage as long as they spell correctly. Lauter said they also "get roped into a little bit of dance" while on stage.

Seamlessly melding the unscripted

guest speller appearances with scripted music and dialogue has been a challenge. To get a feel for timing and music cues, Lauter enlisted members of the Farmington Players to portray the guest spellers during rehearsals.

Middle school memories

She is directing two separate casts for the shows, which focus on a quirky group of six middle school students who are fighting for the spelling bee championship. Adults and two teens perform the "PG 13" evening and Sunday shows and a mix of adults and kids have been cast in the PG Saturday matinees.

"It's definitely a show where every-

one ought to be able to relate to at least one character and adults will get sucked back into their middle school years," Lauter said.

Massey is looking forward to the experience. He said Farmington Hills Councilwoman Valerie Knol, who is active in Farmington Players, recruited him for the show.

"It sounded like fun. I really think we have a great community," Massey said, "And I like being involved in the community."

The adult cast includes Daniel Murray of Birmingham, Lloyd Platis of Canton, Yakob Engel of Farmington Hills, Mackenzie McIlroy of Commerce Township, Lindsey Brenz of Troy and Jordan Gagnon of Farmington Hills as spellers. The youth cast spellers are Matthew Baker-Grunza of Pleasant Ridge, Jonathon Stecevic, Yakob Engel, and Maryanna Lauter, all of Farmington Hills, Hallie Fox of Ypsilanti, and Paige Osgood of Brighton.

Jamee Perryman of Clawson, Jim Snideman of Commerce Township, and Cory Shorter of Dearborn Heights portray adults in both casts.

The show is 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, 11-12, and 18-19, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 5-6, 12-13, and 19-20, at the Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for students and seniors, 62 and over. Call 248-553-2955 or email boxoffice@farmingtonplayers.org.

Pawpaw drinking vinegar debuts at new Farmington tasting room

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

If you've ever wanted to try pawpaw, you can buy a vinegar version of the native fruit when McClary Bros. opens its tasting room next month in Farmington.

"I was familiar with pawpaw as a fruit for many years. I only tasted pawpaw once. It tastes like a little blend between a mango, papaya and a banana," said Jess Sanchez McClary, owner of McClary Bros. Drinking Vinegars.

Her vinegars, which she promoted on the TV show *Shark Tank* in September, are used as cocktail mixers, as tart, fruity flavoring in sparkling water, for cooking and in dressings. Customers can sample and buy them at the tasting room at 32621 Grand

River Ave. Its grand opening is set for noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, and will include tasting, food, beverage demonstrations, giveaways and face painting for children.

McClary Bros.' current flavors are Michigan Beet & Carrot, Michigan Apple Pie, Michigan Cranberry, Pineapple & Fennel Seed, and Lemon & Ginger. The pawpaw-flavored vinegar is part of a new product line, *Forgotten Flavors*, that will feature unusual Michigan crops while giving back a portion of proceeds to *Forgotten Harvest*, where the Farmington woman manufactures her vinegars.

"Pawpaw is not cultivated commercially. You have to wait until they fall. You can't pick them off the tree," she said. "It's very unusual to find it sold anywhere."



Josh McClary of Farmington checks out a tub of pawpaw fruit.

SUBMITTED

McClary and her husband Josh found a farmer in Ann Arbor with an orchard of pawpaw trees and the patience to harvest the nutrient-rich trop-

ical fruit. "He sits on the porch and watches them fall and picks them up. They are very thin-skinned. If you stack them

they turn to mush. You have to wait until they turn black like a banana to use them," McClary said.

Limited edition

The couple made a small batch of pawpaw drinking vinegar two years ago. They liked what they tasted, and this year made a limited-edition batch of Michigan Pawpaw, available only through the tasting room or online. McClary's other flavors are sold in stores, such as Meijer, in bars and restaurants in 20 states.

McClary said a tasting room allows customers to sample before they buy the product and ask questions about its use. She initially marketed her product at a

Nursing sick daughter teaches patience, kindness

As a parent, there are a lot of things that will come your way that aren't going to be sunshine and rainbows. But today, on the eighth day of my daughter's current illness, I feel like having a sick kid is among the worst things that can happen to you as a parent.



Sarah Davies
GUEST COLUMNIST

My baby girl has had a whole lot going on this past week, and after our visit with the doctor today it looks like it will be another rough five or so days as multiple viruses pass through her. We are not a daycare family so I thought we might avoid most sicknesses. Additionally, the entire first year of my daughter's life was illness-free, so all of this "caring for a sick child" stuff is new to me.

With my sick little girl next to me, I can't help but feel awful for her. She hasn't been feeling like herself for over a week. If you have met my daughter or seen pictures of

her, you know that she is not shy when it comes to eating. To watch her push away every calorie that has gone her way in the last few days has been heartbreaking. She is hungry, but too sick to want to eat. She is tired, but so tired that she has trouble falling asleep. She is coughing, but mostly when she is lying down and almost always when she is sleeping or trying to fall asleep.

I feel so sad for her, but I feel so grateful, too. I want to thank her for reminding me yet again that I can get a whole lot done on a very little amount of sleep. I want to thank her for teaching me that yoga and morning stretches really can work out kinks in my back from sleeping sitting up while

holding a 27-pound baby in my arms all night. I am grateful for learning that I can survive the absolute grossest moment of my life, which I have experienced since baby girl encountered the "belly trouble" part of her viruses. She has taught me patience and kindness and caring, all to a level I knew nothing about previously.

New challenges

Thirteen months into motherhood I have found that I am continuously learning new lessons and constantly becoming a better, stronger person. It is amazing to me how much I have changed from the person I was the day I found out I was pregnant. That person seems like a far-off figment of my imagination; someone I hardly can remember being. Each day I face new challenges as a parent, and each night I fall asleep a little bit stronger than I was the day before. I feel proud for pushing myself

through obstacles I never imagined encountering, for dealing with a screaming, teething, fever-filled baby all night long, only to hear my alarm go off before my eyes have even closed. I never believed in myself enough to think I could accomplish the things that I have.

When you become a parent, life as you knew it simply disappears. When you once were concerned about the latest fashion trends or what movie was opening up at the theater, you now are thinking about diaper rash cream and holding your baby upright while she coughs up junk that has been stuck in her lungs for days. I listen to people I know plan their weekends, their parties with kegs and beer pong tournaments, and I pray silently that I will get at least a three-hour-straight streak of sleep tonight. I am googling "indoor playgrounds" and "kid friendly events" instead of the old usual

of "bar hopping Fridays" or "happy hour specials."

Everything, as I can remember it, has changed. But I couldn't be one tiny bit happier. This new life, this parent life, is the one that was meant for me. Holding my crying, puking, fever-full, coughing, belly-troubled and cranky little girl while she struggles to feel better, even as she coughs in my face and rubs her nose in my hair, is far better than anything else. I have never been prouder of myself, nor felt so bad for someone as I do for my little girl as she deals with this illness. I know it will pass, as will the moments that she will want to snuggle me and give me kisses. So I will just treasure the moments as they come, as best I can, even when they involve a virus.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of single motherhood. Contact her at sarahmari Davies@gmail.com.

Giving to others, giving thanks, bolsters mental health

Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and other religious and secular holidays surround us at this time of year. One common denominator to these events seems to be the activity of giving. We might ask, in what way is this helpful to us?



Len J. McCulloch
GUEST COLUMNIST

Halloween was experienced as the time and opportunity when one could be whatever or whomever you want, and go into the world at large and receive free sweets. The long tradition of giving candy to trick-or-treaters continues to be an enjoyable activity. Thanksgiving is celebrated

by giving. We give thanks. This can further our preparation for Christmas, New Years, and other timely holidays.

Giving to others and the giving of thanks for what we have seems to be an important ingredient of resilience. Resilience is highly important, along with hope and empathy, which are conducive to mental health and the treatment of anxiety and depression associ-

ated with emotional distress. Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adversity and losses. Giving thanks joins up with its neighbors of optimism, tolerance and benevolence toward ourselves and others. One of the major tools to build resilience comes from the ability and practice of giving to others and the giving of thanks for what one has.

Giver, recipient

There is the story of the person complaining because he had no shoes. His lamentations stopped when he met a man who had no feet. It seems that the only thing worse than hav-

ing a tragedy is having a bad attitude about it. At this time of year, this idea is further exemplified in our timeless story of Scrooge. Not until, and with the help and the resilient attitude of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cratchett and their special-needs son Tiny Tim, was Scrooge able to give to others and to give thanks for his good fortunes. As the story goes, this transformed him favorably, forever.

As we find ourselves amidst this holiday season in our community and throughout the world, it is hoped that we can wish the best for others and give thanks for our fortunes,

however small or large they may be. The acceptance of gifts has its own unique importance in that the giver is sharing a part of themselves which is best responded to with a bonafide thank you, rather than a "Oh you shouldn't have." In doing so, we are contributing to the building of resilience for ourselves, and at the same time sharing it with others.

Happy Holidays from Our Mental Health.

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He can be reached for a courtesy consultation at 248-474-2763, ext. 222.

PAWPAW

Continued from Page B6

tasting room in Ferndale, and then took it to Eastern Market

in Detroit. The Farmington location is closer to her home. "You can come here and try all of our flavors and we'll tell you what to do with them," McClary said. "The pawpaw is amazing. I could not be happier

with the flavor. It is absolutely incredible." The next Forgotten Flavors vinegar, planned for release next summer, will incorporate Saskatoon berry. "It's like a blueberry but has

a thicker skin than a blueberry, but tastes like the best blueberry you've ever had," McClary said. "It's lovely. It's a beautiful flavor." After its grand opening, the tasting room will be open from

noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more about McClary's drinking vinegars, visit mcclarybrf.com. sdargay@hometownlife.com

Guide to Employment

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>APPOINTMENT SETTER Make Your Own Schedule! Work From Home PT or FT. Schedule Pick-Ups for Purple Heart, call Mon-Fri. 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phonevorkinfo@aol.com</p> <p>AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE ADVISOR Sellers Buick-GMC has an immediate opening for a Service Advisor Excellent pay and benefits ADP experience beneficial. Automotive news top 100 dealerships to work for. Apply in person or email: tombrown@sellersgmc.com or jon@commercialtruck.com</p> <p>AUTO PARTS SORTING & INSPECTING Established Co. in Brighton is seeking quick learners. \$10/hr. No exp. needed. Must have own vehicle. Apply online at: matrinoqualityservices.com Or call Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm. 810-229-6053</p> <p>CUSTODIAL PART-TIME Northville First United Methodist Isl. Church is looking for a part-time custodian to work evenings & Sunday mornings. If interested or for more information submit a resume and letter of interest to jhopkins@firstunitedville.org Or call Jim at: 248-349-1144</p> <p>DIRECT CARE STAFF To work with adults w/DD in the Westland, Livonia, Garden City area. Part & Full-Time available. Must be at least 18 yrs old w/ HS Diploma or GED, valid Driver's License w/acceptable driving record & clean criminal record. CLS or MDCRC training preferred. \$8.50/hr to start. Call: 248-661-8795 or Fax resume: 248-788-0264</p> <p>DIRECT CARE WORKER Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Start at \$8.15/hr. PT & FT. 734-852-7852</p> <p>RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>DIRECT CARE WORKERS Waterford, Clarkston, Milford, Lake Orion, W. Bloomfield, Beverly Hills, Livonia, Dearborn Hts., Taylor, Romulus, Downriver Requirements include: • CLS, MDCRC, DCW Training • CPR & First Aid Certification • Valid MI Driver's License Full Time w/Benefits ENHANCE, INC. 248-477-5209 Email resume to: shtelman@enhance-inc.com</p> <p>Direct Support Professional Needed to assist and support individuals to live in their homes as independently as possible by assisting with recreation, daily living needs, transportation and other duties/ services. Positions available in Canton/ Westland Area. Contact: 734-722-4580 Ext #19 or apply on-line www.ahscomserv.com/</p> <p>Field Service Tech Full-Time Will be dispatched to various calls in the Metro-Detroit area to repair Toshiba copiers. Salary + monthly Bonus + company car, cell phone & Laptop + health benefits + paid time off. Apply in person: Millennium BUSINESS SYSTEMS 33140 Industrial Rd., Livonia</p> <p>INSIDE SALES SPECIALIST Inspec, Inc. in Canton, Michigan is looking for a full-time inside sales specialist who is an assertive self-starter with excellent written and verbal communication skills and 5 years' experience in catalog customer sales. The candidate will be responsible for interaction with active and prospective customers via phone and email; creating and processing quotations along with documentation of interactions in company database. They must also meet established quotas and sales goals. Knowledge of measurement services and equipment is preferred along with a two-year associates degree. We offer a competitive wage and benefits package, in a team oriented work environment. Send resume and salary requirements to resumes@inspec-inc.com</p> <p>RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>JANITORIAL Howell, Brighton, Wixom, Novi, Farmington Mon-Fri. & weekend availability. 20-25 hrs/wk. \$8.50/hr. www.usservico.com or fax resume to: 248-926-9595</p> <p>JANITORIAL Part-Time Evening Positions in Livonia & Farmington areas. Starting at \$8.50/hour. Apply online at: usservico.com or fax resume 248-926-9595</p> <p>MAINTENANCE TECH Needed for Wixom area townhouses. 2 yrs. exp. in multi-family repairs & snow plowing a must. Competitive salary and benefits. EOE Fax resume to MNC 248-553-4570</p> <p>Manufacturing: Expanding Manufacturing Company in Livonia is currently recruiting for the following full-time positions: • Production Press Operators • Production Welders • Robotic Technicians • Customer Service Rep w/GM experience • Accounts Payable Clerk • Cost Estimator • Various Management • Engineering Positions Interested parties should email, or fax resume to: QUALITY METALCRAFT 33355 Glenade Livonia, MI 48150 Fax: 734-469-5248 Email: careers@qualitymetalcraft.com Candidates should have automotive manufacturing experience preferred.</p> <p>PLUMBER with at least 3 years of field experience or Licensed journeyman. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Send resume and work history/experience to resumes_hr_department@yahoo.com</p> <p>RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>CDL-A DRIVERS At AIM, we take care of our drivers. You can choose a job, or you can choose a lifestyle. \$3,000 Bonus \$60,000 Yearly Weekly Pay Guarantee Paid Weekly 24/7 support with our award-winning Road Rescue team Anthem Medical with low deductibles Annual Profit Sharing Bonuses and 401K Retirement plans AIM Integrated Logistics 877-977-4804 bitly.com/michigandcl</p> <p>Caretel Inns OF BRIGHTON is looking for: DIRECT CARE/CNA- "GUEST ASSISTANTS" Part Time • 2nd & 3rd Shifts Caretel Inns of Brighton is growing! We have immediate opportunities for Direct Care-Guest Assistants/CNAs in our beautiful Assisted Living environment, to help our residents with daily personal care and social interaction. Med Pass Experience preferred. High School Diploma/ GED. Please apply in person at: 1014 E. Grand River Ave Brighton MI Or email resume to: hrcaretel@brighton.com You'll Want to Work Here!</p> <p>TEAM CLEANERS DIRECT HIRE- IMMEDIATE START \$9-\$11/hr. BASED ON EXP. WEEKLY PAY CALL 248-598-5295 OR APPLY AT WWW.SABERSTAFFINGSERVICES.COM</p> <p>RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ DIRECT CARE WORKER Rewarding positions serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be 18. Paid training. Hiring in: Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Northville/Canton areas. 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Performance training can help prevent injuries

Injuries are common while participating in organized sports, competitions, training exercises or fitness activities. Many times athletes, competitive or recreational, are hurt because they aren't properly performing their chosen activity. Not taking the time to warm up, a lack of conditioning and improper mechanics are all factors in activity-related injuries.

There are actions you can take to make injuries less likely. Begin with awareness. Here are some common activity injuries and how to prevent them.

» **Meniscal tears:** A wrenching twist or blow to the knee can tear the cartilage that cushions and stabilizes. Conditioning exercises that stabilize the knee can help prevent this injury.

» **Ankle sprains:** These are common in sports that feature quick changes in direction or pivoting. Sprains stretch ligaments that support the ankle. Build strength and stability through one-legged balance training to prevent them.

» **Rotator cuff tears:** The group of muscles and tendons that support the upper arm as you move it around is called the rotator cuff. It can tear after a fall or from repetitive use. Daily shoulder stretches for the arm and shoulder blades, and exercises to strengthen the cuff muscles can help.

» **ACL tear:** The anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) connects the top of the shin to the back of the thigh. It can tear with abrupt change of direction. Exercises to strengthen the lateral hip, improve core power and stabilize lumbosacral alignment can help.

» **Stress fractures:** Exercising too hard or fast can cause tiny cracks in weight-bearing bones. To prevent stress fractures, gradually increase training intensity and duration, strengthen the muscles supporting your core, and alternate your activities.

» **Achilles tendon injuries:**



Steve Karageanes
GUEST COLUMNIST

This tendon joins the calf muscle to the heel. Quick acceleration or jumping on a tight muscle can tear it. Frequent calf and hamstring stretches, as well as strengthening the calf and core muscles, can avoid injury.

Another option for preventing injury is physical therapy (rehabilitation) or performance training. Although rehab usually implies treatment after an injury, physical therapists and athletic trainers can help address problems before they get worse, particularly when they start off as a little twinge. Dealing with achy joints, painful movements and stiffness is no fun — especially if it slows you down and affects the activities you love most. Physical therapy and performance training helps:

- » Improve mobility and function
 - » Stabilize chronic malalignment in the spine and pelvis
 - » Reduce or eliminate pain
 - » Prevent a sports injury
 - » Improve balance
- Physical therapists and athletic trainers use their knowledge and skills to help many people of all ages in many different situations, such as:

- » Regaining strength and flexibility after injury
- » Teaching young athletes how to avoid repetitive-use injuries.
- » Teaching someone to understand how their body moves.
- » Developing a fitness program for older adults with arthritis that will enable them to continue doing their favorite activities.
- » Providing rehabilitation programs for individuals looking to maintain strength, decrease fatigue, minimize pain and maximize function during cancer treatments.



Many times athletes, competitive or recreational, are hurt because they aren't properly performing their chosen activity.

» Working to strengthen arms and legs weakened by stroke so the person can walk again and regain independence.

Physical therapists may specialize in a particular area, such as sports, geriatrics, neurology or orthopedics. Using such techniques as exercise, manual therapy, and assistive devices, physical therapists work to their patients' unique needs to achieve their goals.

Athletic trainers work with athletes in a variety of capacities; first-aid responder, rehab specialist, psychologist, and performance specialist. A trainer with appropriate training can direct an athlete safely through a performance training program to not only improve specific athletic skills

and conditioning, but injury prevention and overall wellness as well.

Think physical therapy or performance training can help you get your game back to what it used to be? Ask your doctor if physical therapy or performance training is right for you.

Steven Karageanes, D.O., is the medical director of sports medicine at St. Mary Mercy Livonia and MercyElite Sports Performance. Karageanes has extensive experience with professional sports teams in the metro Detroit area and is considered a national leader in sports medicine.

To find a physician at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, call its physician referral line at 888-464-WELL or visit stmarymercy.org.

Using such techniques as exercise, manual therapy, and assistive devices, physical therapists work to their patients' unique needs to achieve their goals.

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